虹色蘋梅

③

安達充

MITSURU ADACHI

★前情提要★

在未來宇宙中，有個近似地球的星球，星球上還有個名爲江戶的地方，七個同父異母的兄弟就在江戶龍神堀的大雜院中，過著幸福快樂的日子。

七兄弟的母親們皆已身亡，而他們的父親則是江戶城城主，因此城主的家臣彥六也特別地辛苦。

提到辛苦，莫過於是負責照料六兄弟生活起居的長女—菜種，這可說是最偉大的了！

據說—在七兄弟當中有一個人不是城主的小孩！這麼一來故事就變得曲折離奇，錯綜複雜；當然，爲了銷售量目前得暫時保密囉！

虹色辣椒 ❸ 目 次

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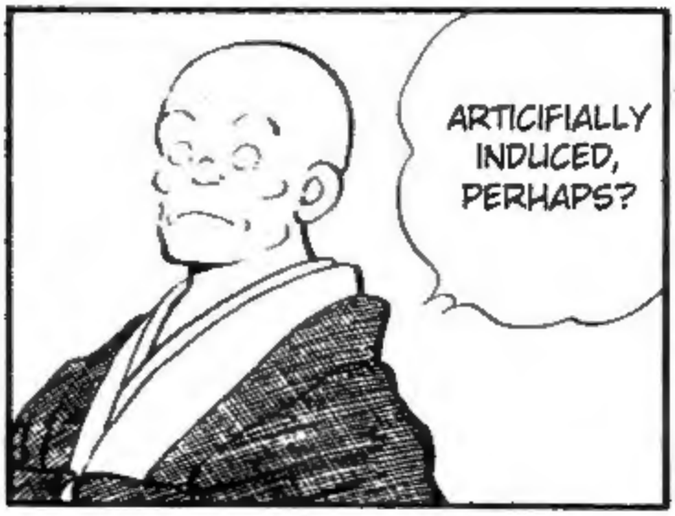
■ 安達充 ■

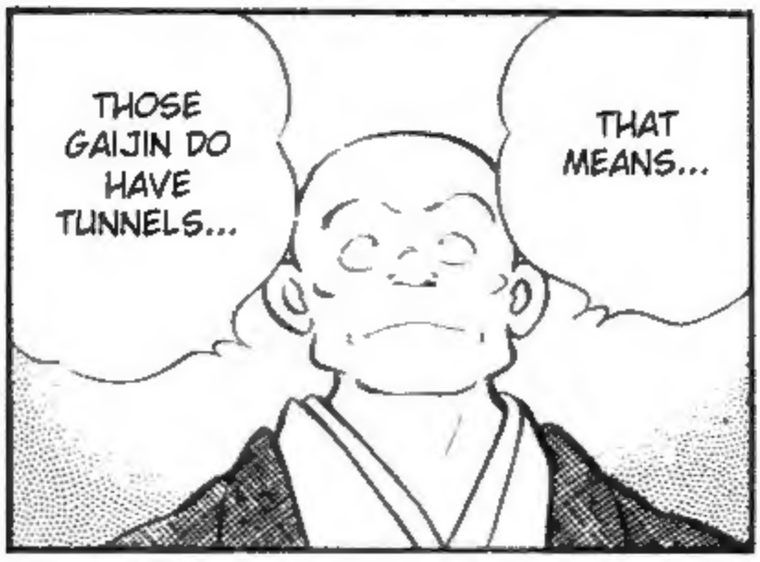
THE PERSON IN THE DREAM

吱
吱
AVALANCHE?

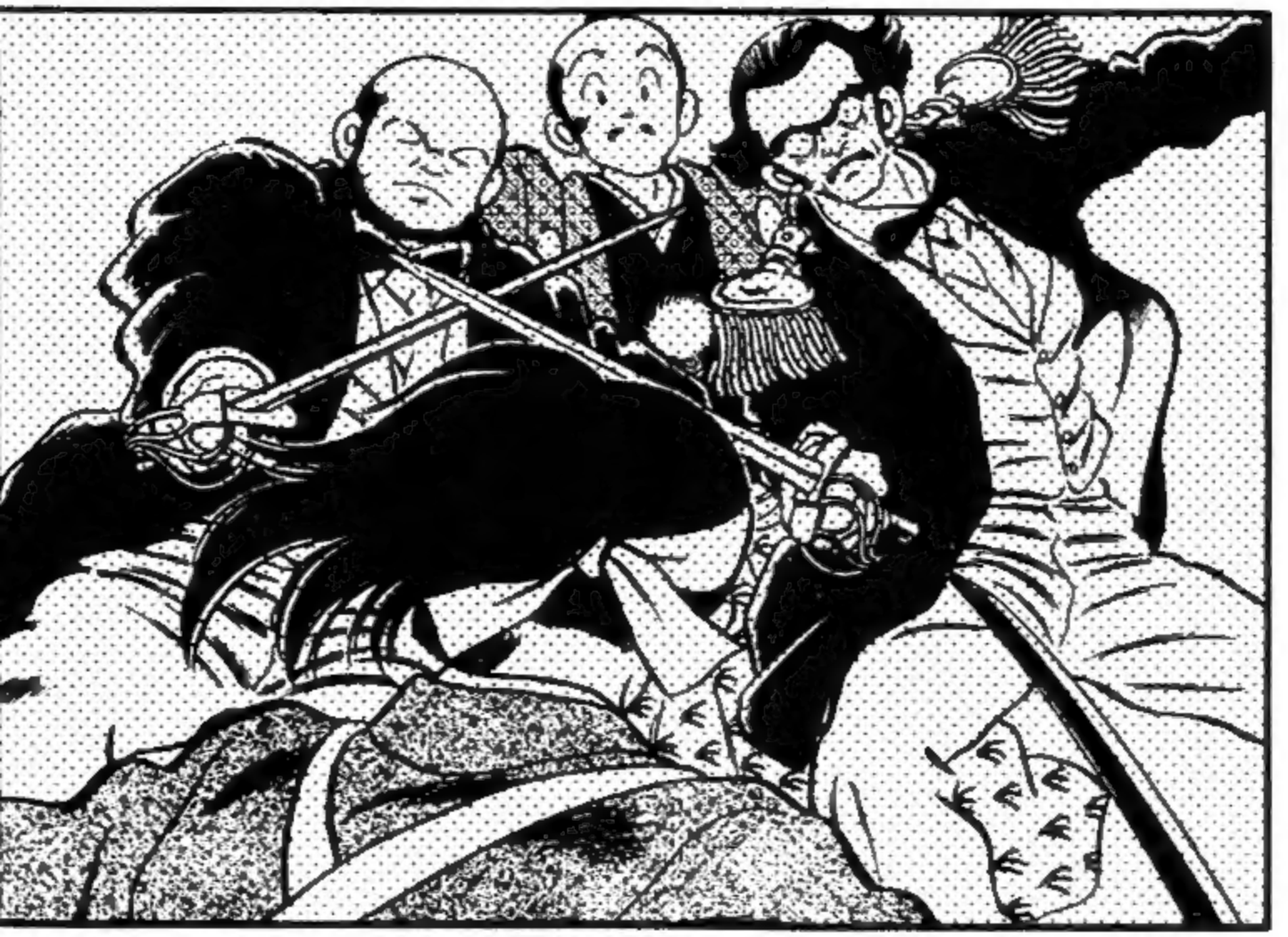
WEIRD. WHY WOULD THERE BE AN AVALANCHE WHEN THERE HASN'T BEEN ANY RAIN OR EARTH-QUAKES IN WEEKS?
YEAH. IT JUST SUDDENLY HAPPENED LAST NIGHT.


ARTICIFIALLY INDUCED, PERHAPS?

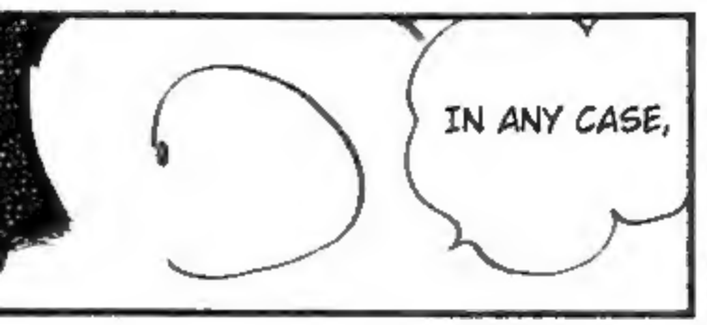
YUP.


THOSE GAIJIN DO HAVE TUNNELS...
THAT MEANS...

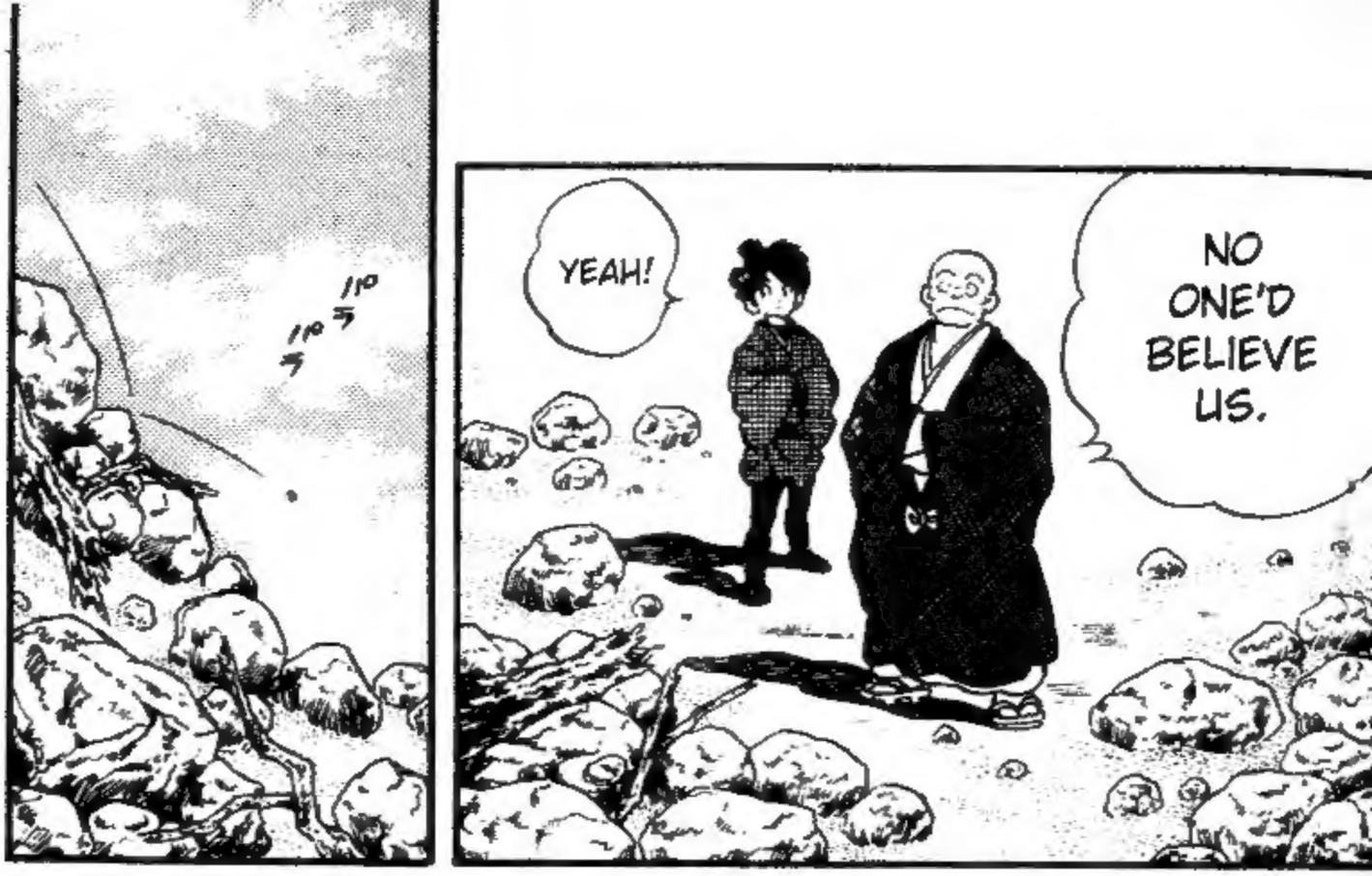
THERE'S EVIDENCE OF DYNA-MITE HERE!

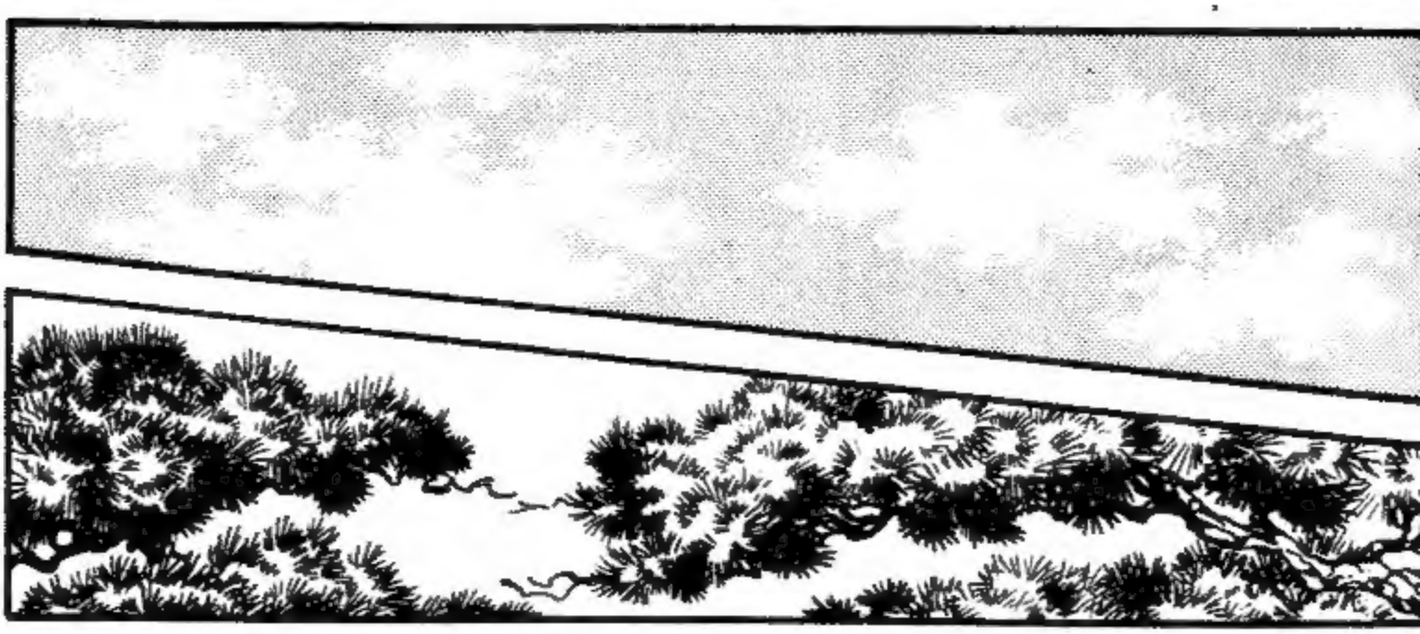


... WHAT
REALLY COULD
WANT? THEY
...


IN ANY CASE,

HMM...

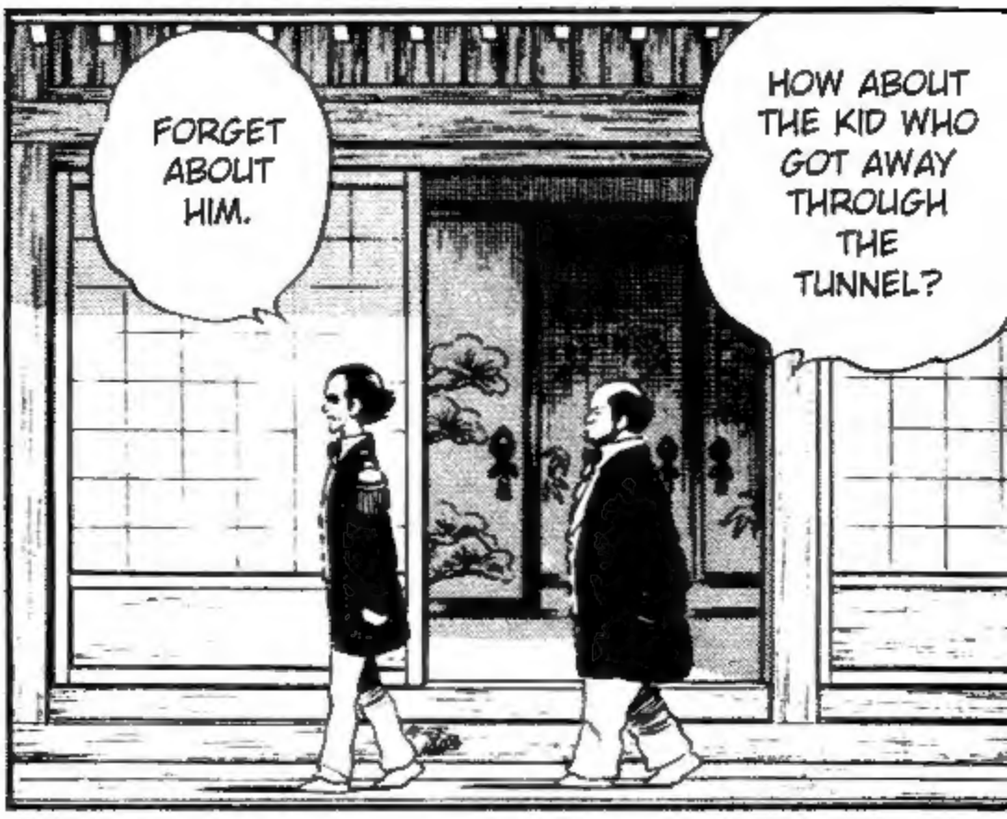

YEAH!
NO ONE'D BELIEVE US.



I, HIRO, WILL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING!
DON'T WORRY!

IT'S NOTHING FOR THE MEN WHO SAVED MY LIFE.
DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS!
BUT... TO TROUBLE YOU LIKE THIS...
WHAT A SIMPLE-TON.
WE'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.
THEN...
NO PROB-LEM!
WELL, IT'LL BE MUCH EASIER FOR US NOW.

HE'S INEF-
FECTUAL.

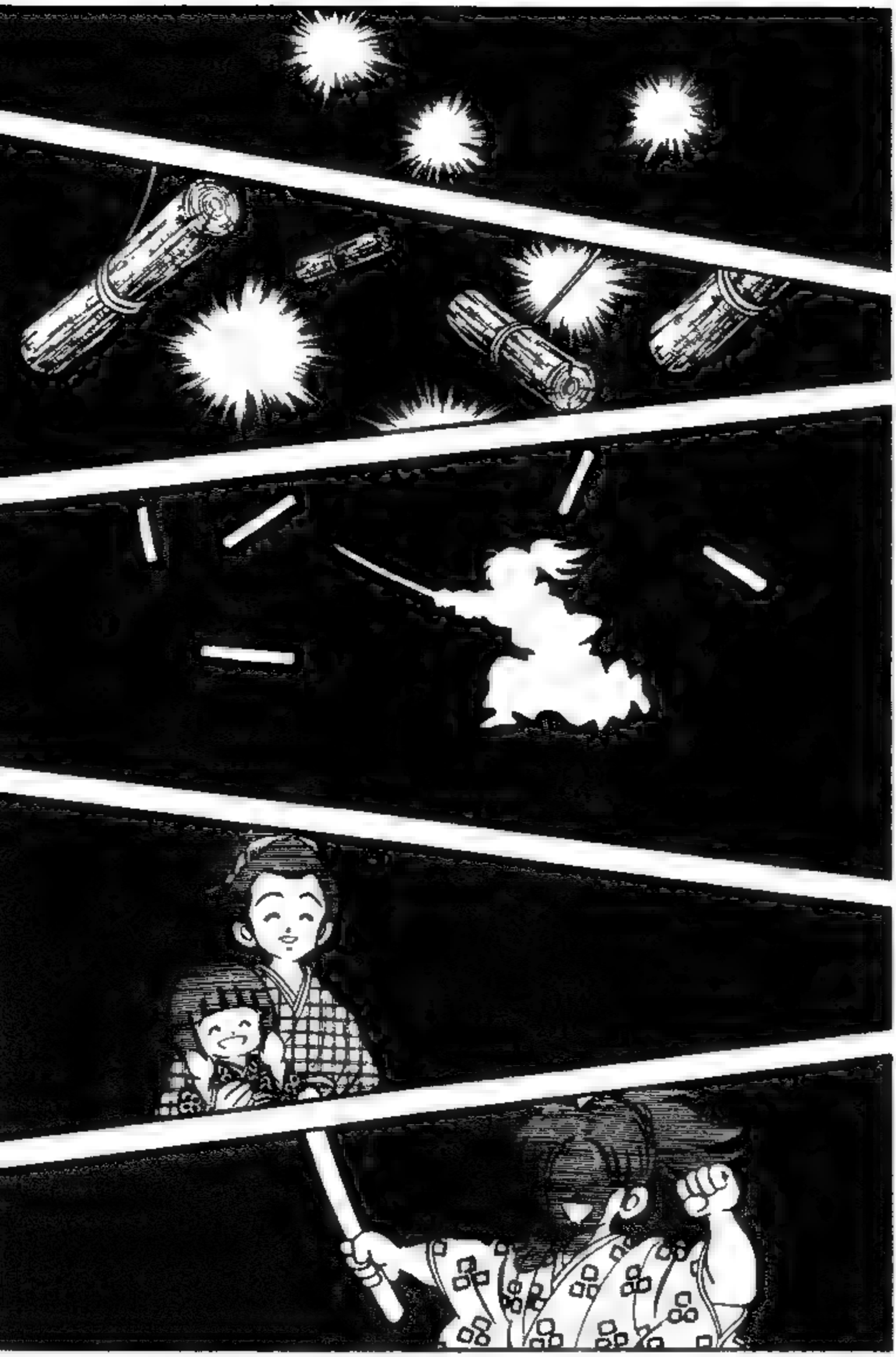

FORGET
ABOUT
HIM.
HOW ABOUT
THE KID WHO
GOT AWAY
THROUGH
THE
TUNNEL?

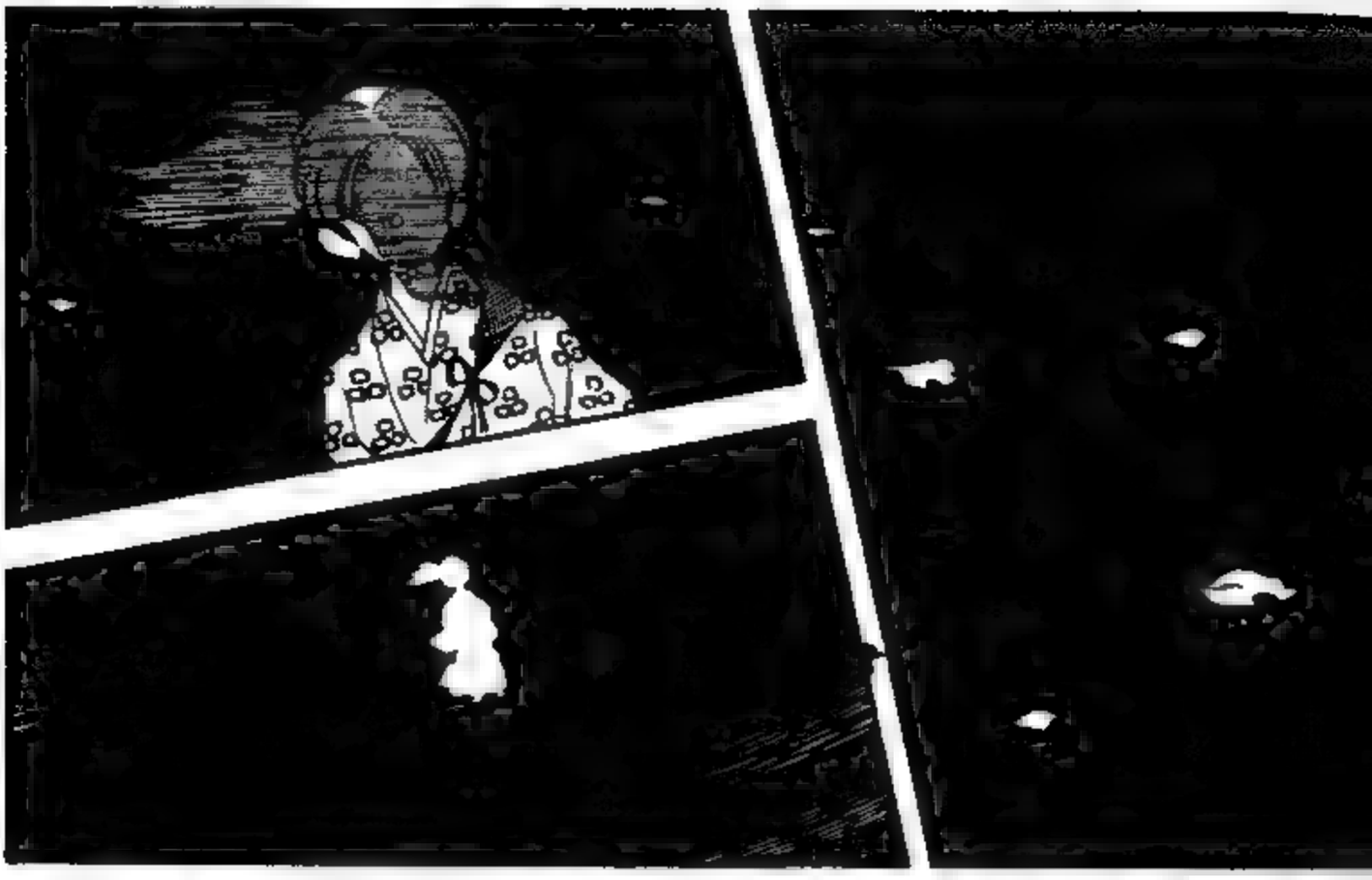
YOU'RE
SO,
SO,
INEFFECTUAL!

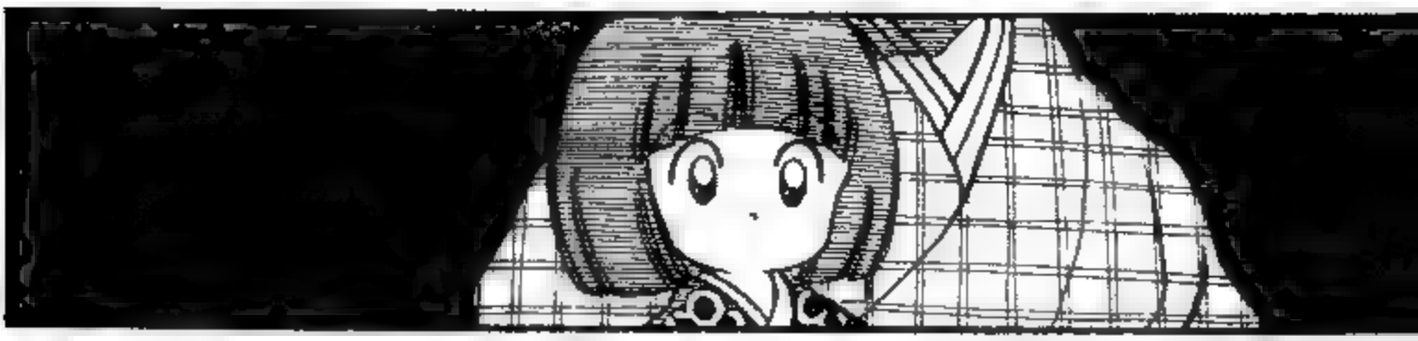
YOW!
USELESS!
CAN'T EVEN CUT A PIECE OF TOFU RIGHT.
MY HAND JUST SLIPPED, THAT'S ALL.
OH, BE QUIET.
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE SICK? GO BACK TO BED.
I KNOW, JUST GO TO SLEEP!
I'M NOT DRINKING ANY MISO SOUP THAT HAS YOUR HAND AS A KEY INGREDIENT!
STOP!
ARGH!
ガラガラシャン
OOPS.

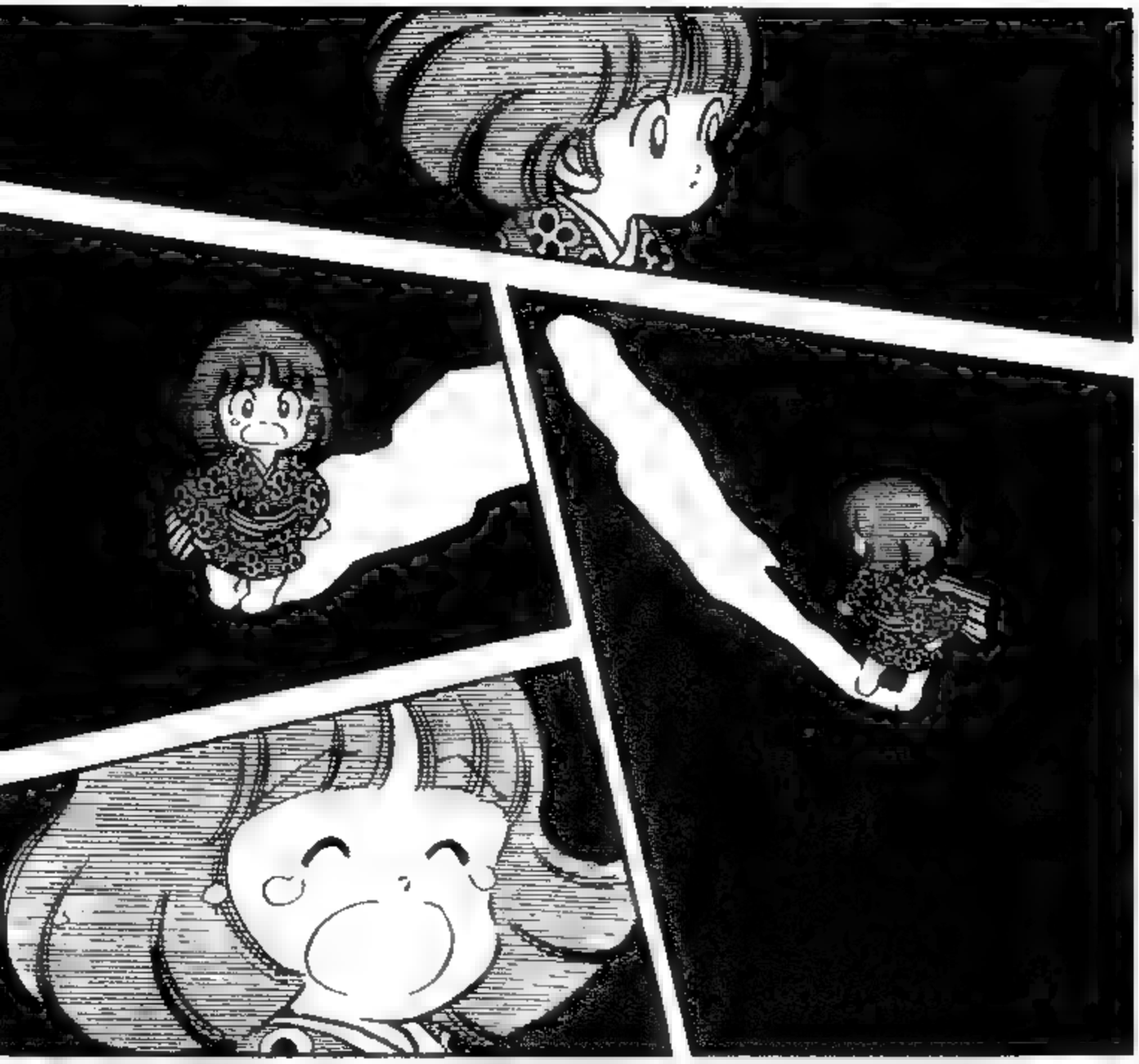
SANSHOU...
COULD YOU GO BUY ANOTHER PIECE OF TOFU FOR ME?
IF THIS GOES ON, MY TEMPERATURE WILL REALLY FLARE UP! I'M USING YOUR ROOM.
I DON'T WANT THE ONES IN YOUR ROOM.
HEY, YOU CAN LEAVE THE FUTON; I HAVE SOME IN MY ROOM!
MEOW

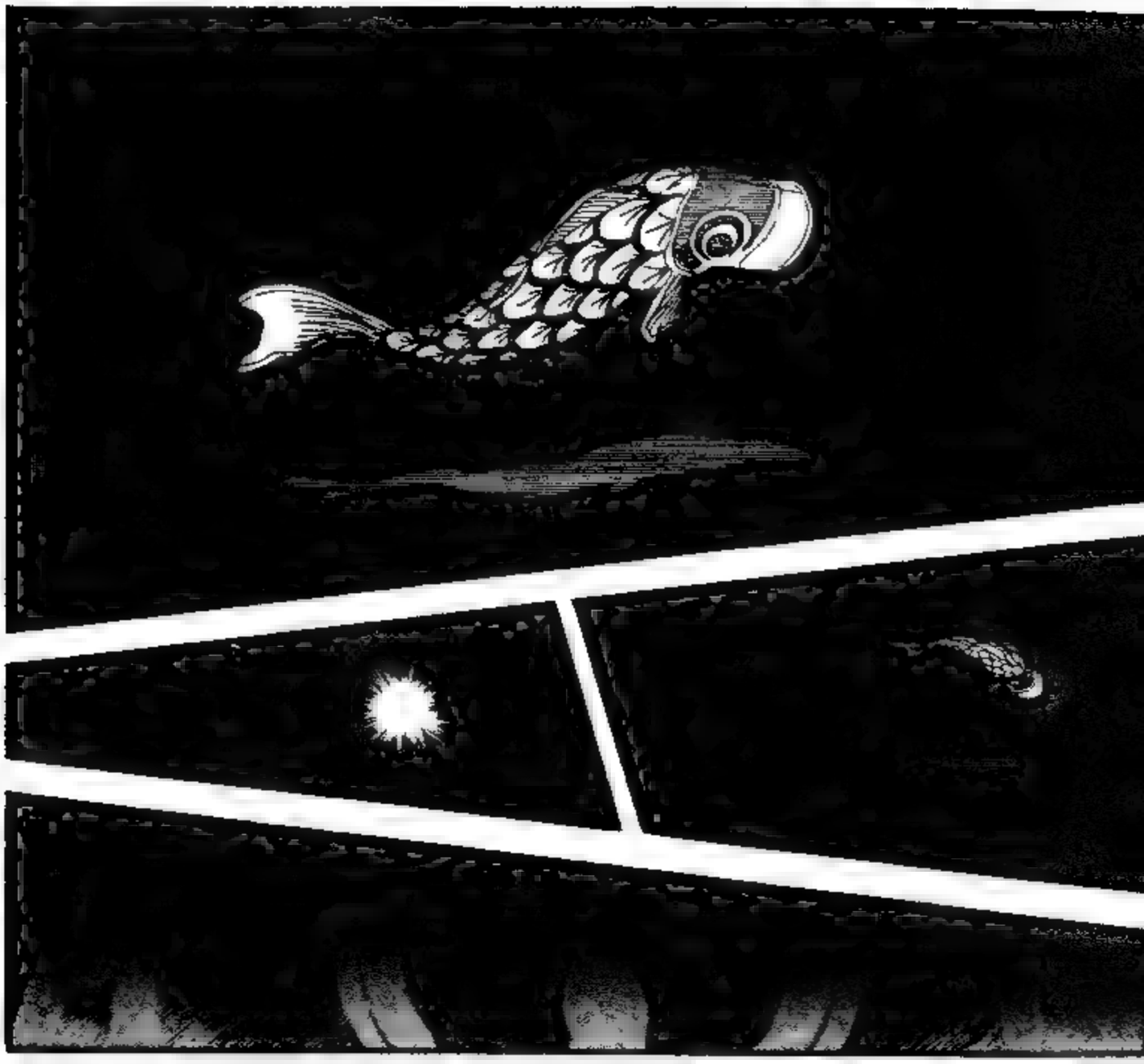
卡啦
卡啦
卡啦
卡啦
卡啦
卡啦
卡啦

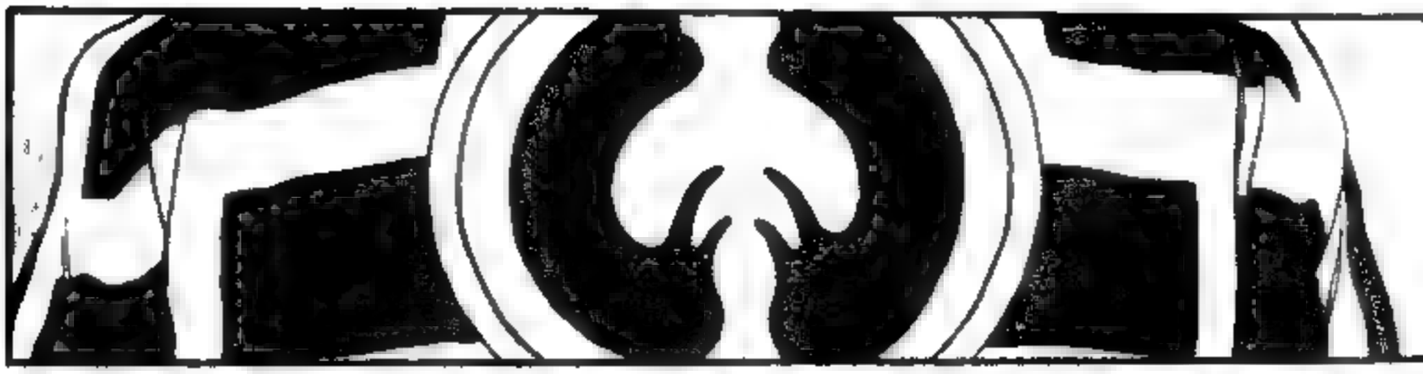


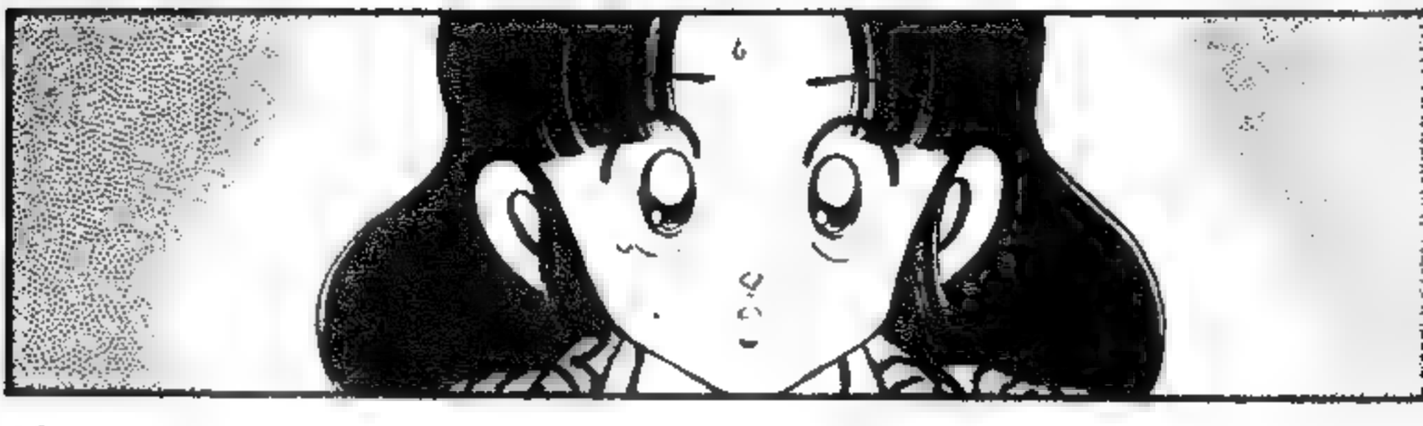


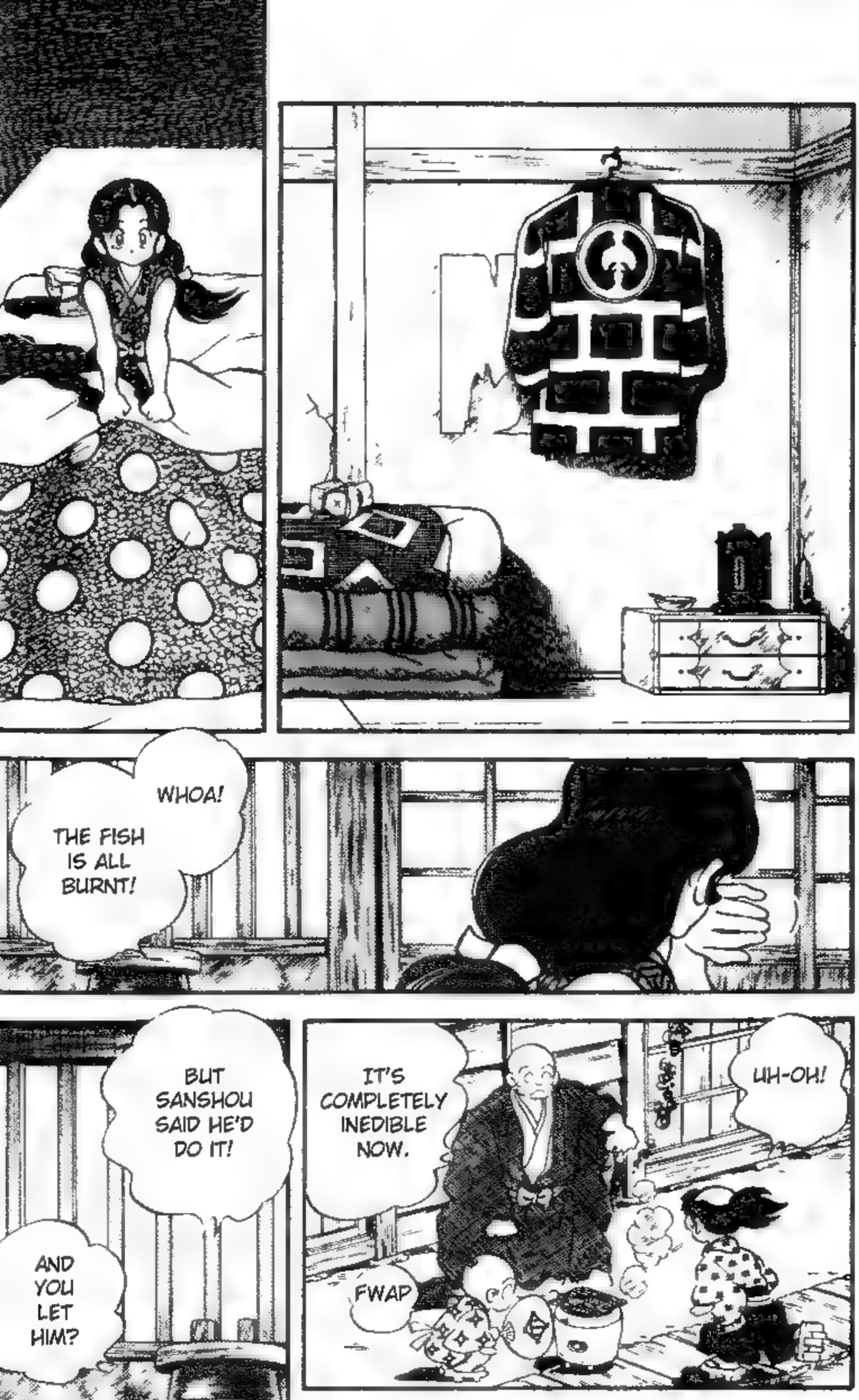




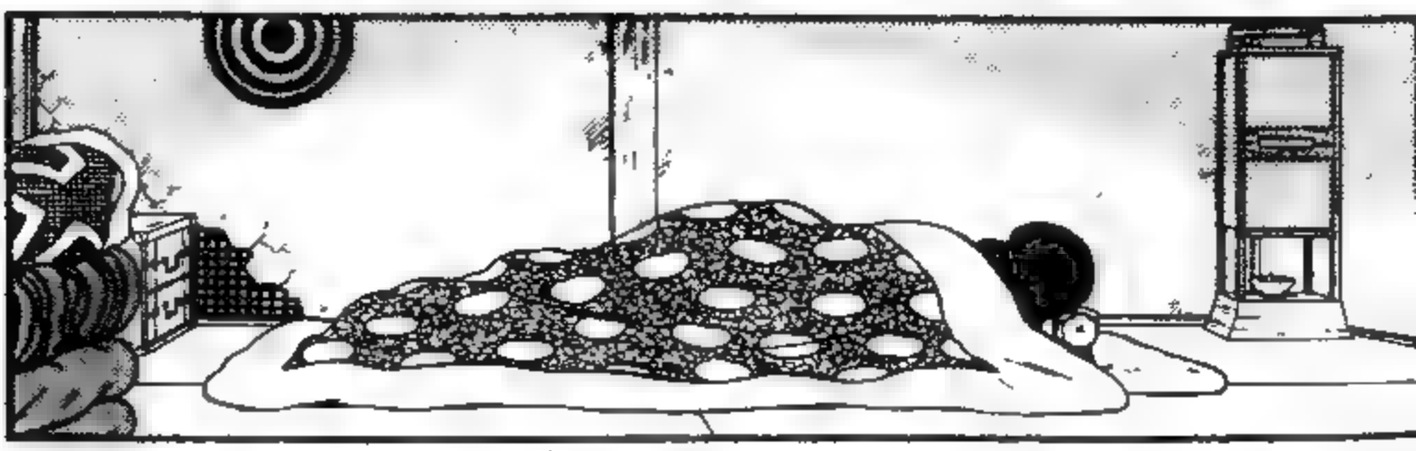







WHOA!
THE FISH IS ALL BURNT!
BUT SANSHOU SAID HE'D DO IT!
AND YOU LET HIM?
IT'S COMPLETELY INEDIBLE NOW.
UH-OH!
FWAP

CHINPI, SEE HOW YOUR SISTER'S DOING.
LEAVE IT FOR NATANE.
ONLY ONE EGG LEFT.
FINE WITH ME.
MEDICINE
PLEASE READ INSTRUCTION BEFORE USING



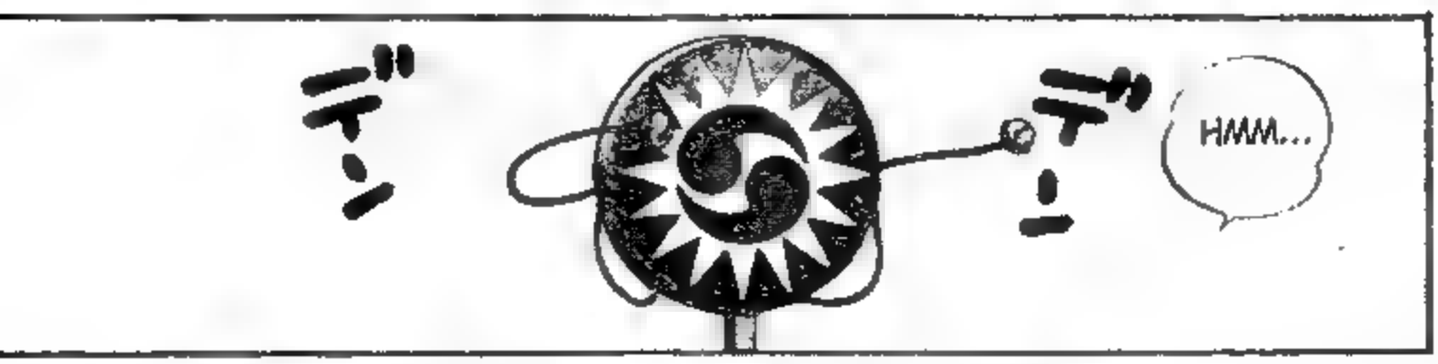
IS HER FEVER BETTER?
SHE'S STILL FAST ASLEEP.
SHOULD BE.
CLICK

SIGH.
AND WHAT DO I GET IF I TRY TO SLEEP? MYSTERIOUS FLASHBACKS.
OKAY.
CLANG!
SHICHIMI, DID YOU PUT THE SCALLIONS IN THE SOUP?
KA-CLANG
OH! I FORGOT!
SANSHOU, STOP FOLLOWING SO CLOSE TO ME!
KLUNK!
CLANG!
BANG!
CHINPI, I'M FINE. GO GET THE CLOTHES!
BONK!
HEY! NO SCALLIONS IN THE SOUP!
I HATE SCALLIONS!
AND WHO IS THAT BOY IN MY DREAMS, I WONDER...?

回憶中的親娘 の巻

MOTHERS IN MEMORIES

SO, WHERE ARE THOSE...
GAIJIN FROM, ANYWAY ?
DAY 4
DAY 4
DAY 3

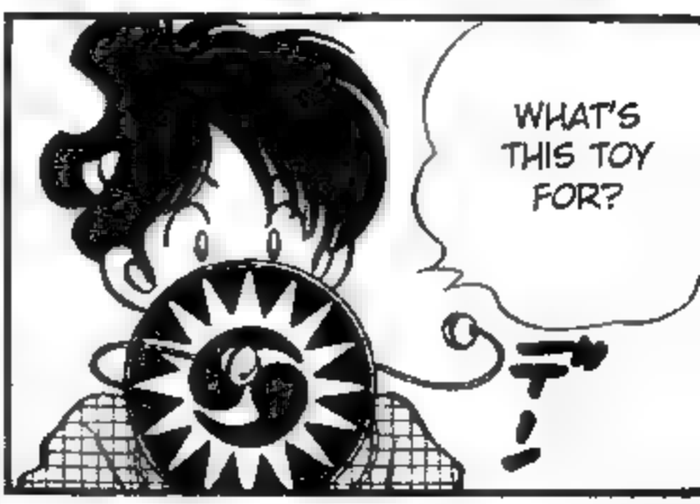

HMM...

NOT MY FAULT THEY SEALED THE TUNNEL.
I WAS GOING TO RETURN IT AFTER YOU FINISHED READING IT!

I DIDN'T STEAL IT!
...THAT YOU STOLE FROM THE GAIJIN HALL...
THIS BOOK...

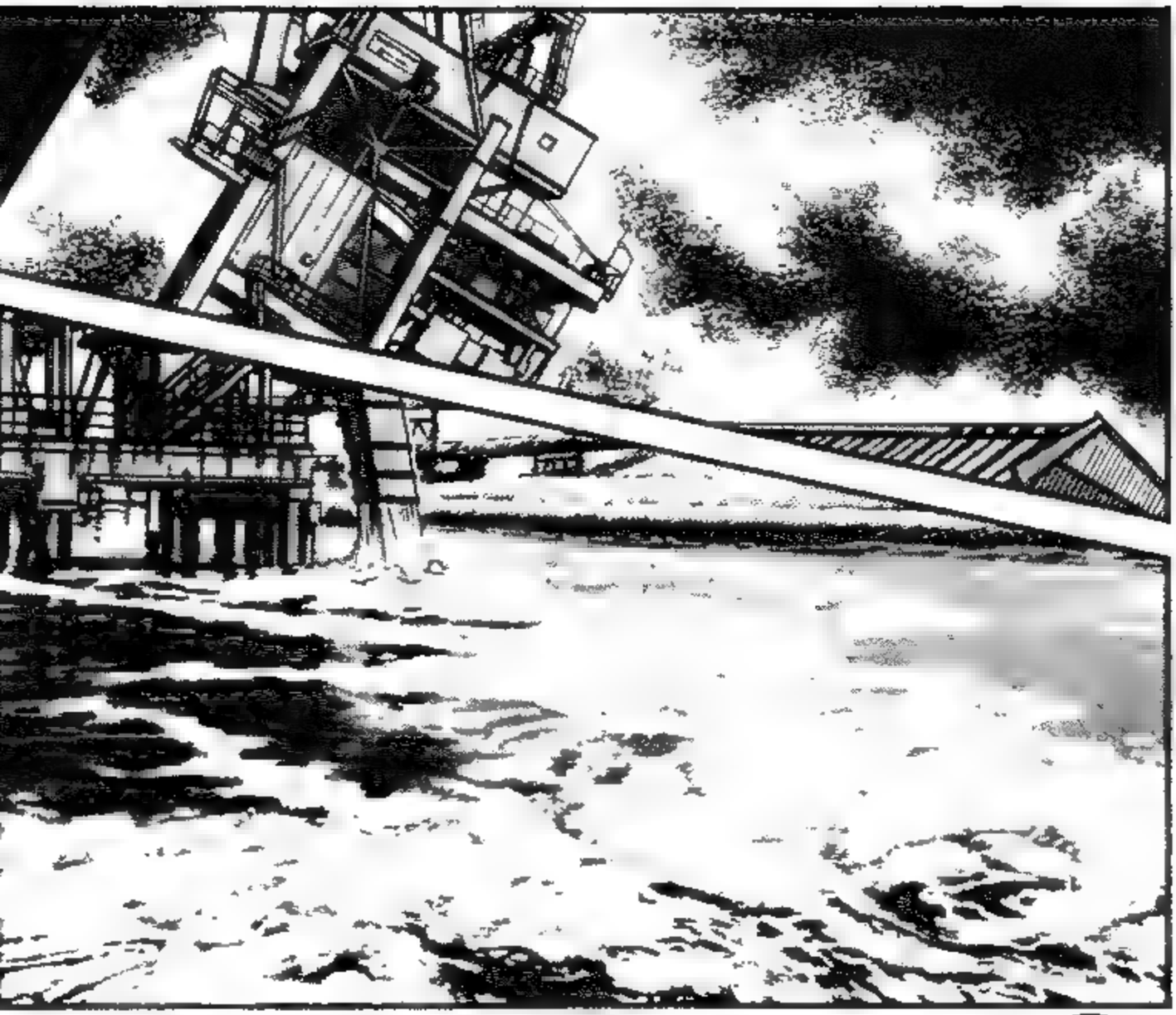
OH!

"RUS-SIAN" DRUM TOY?
IT'S BASED ON RUSSIAN ROULETTE. PEOPLE ARE SUPPOSED TO TAKE TURNS SPINNING IT.

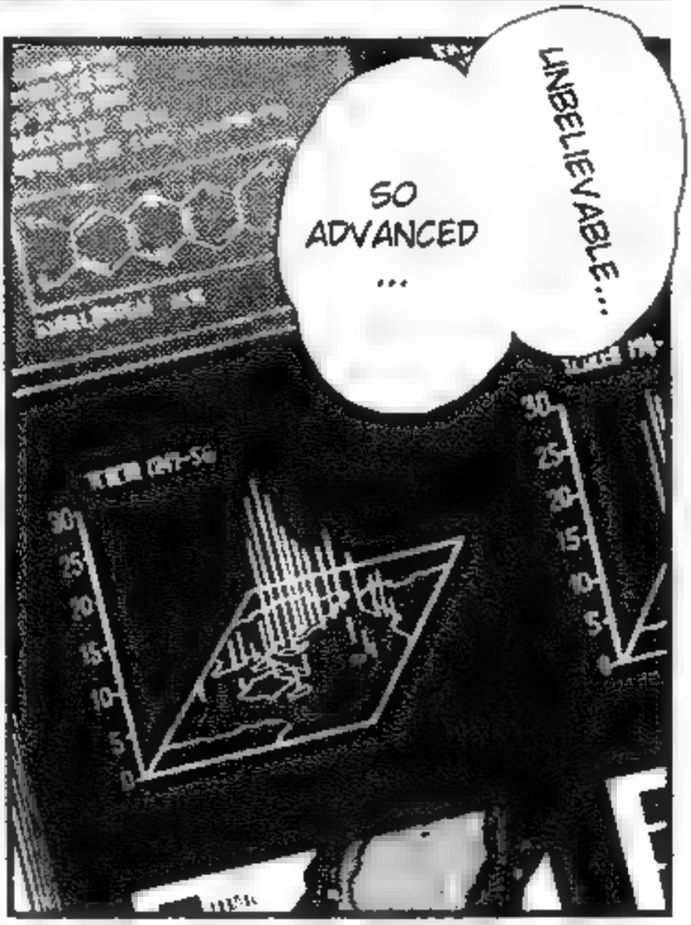

WHAT'S THIS TOY FOR?

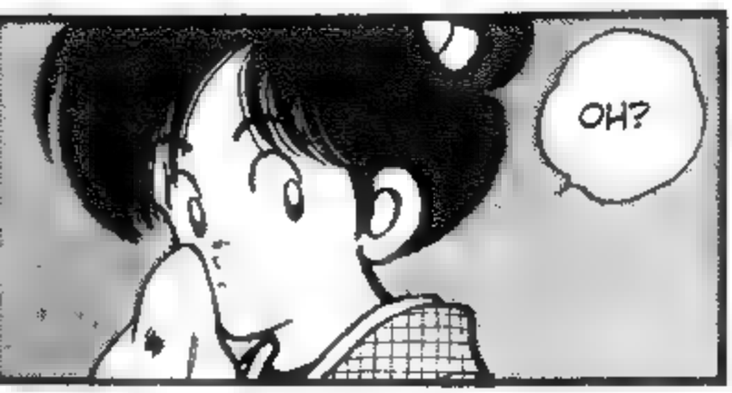
IT'S A RUSSIAN DRUM TOY.

IF SOME UNLUCKY PLAYER HITS A CERTAIN POINT ON THE DRUM, IT'LL



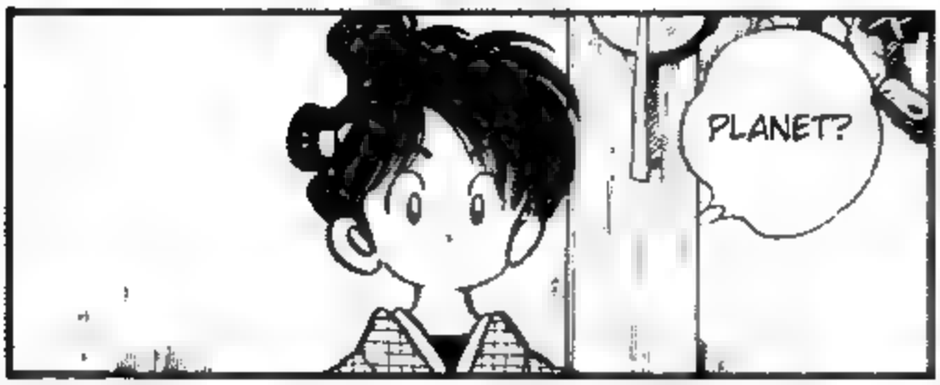
NO! I SHOULD SAY...
TOO ADVANCED!

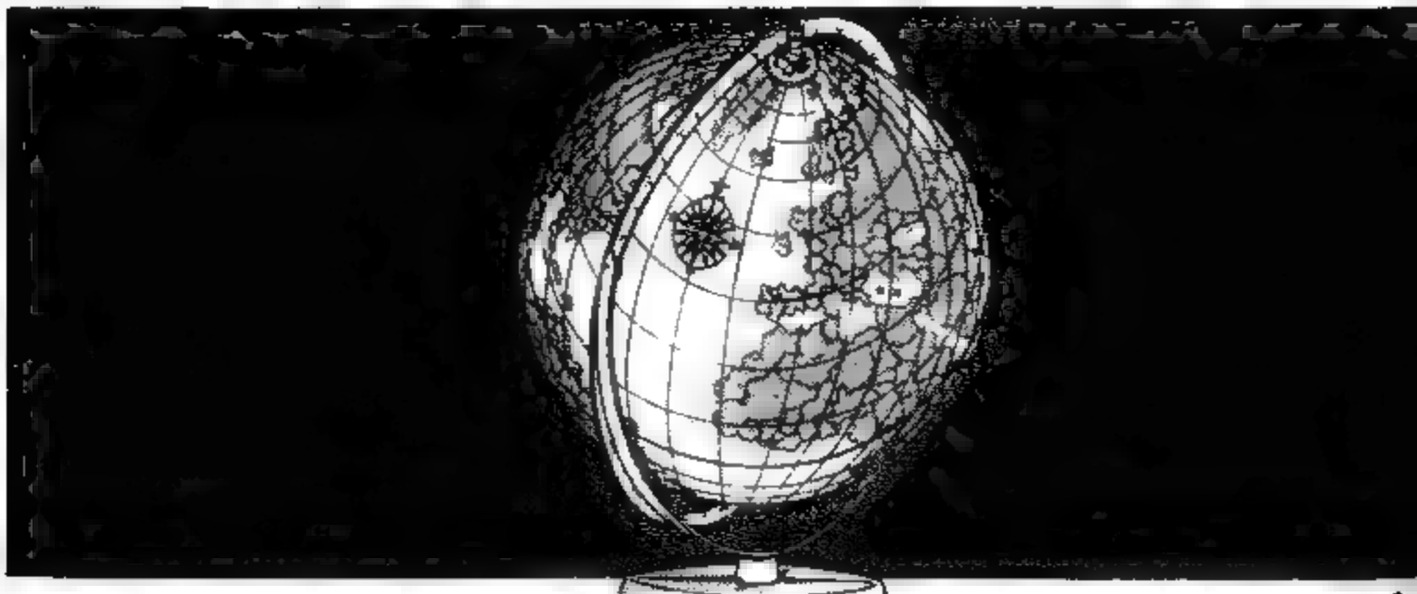

UNBELIEVABLE...
SO ADVANCED ...


OH?

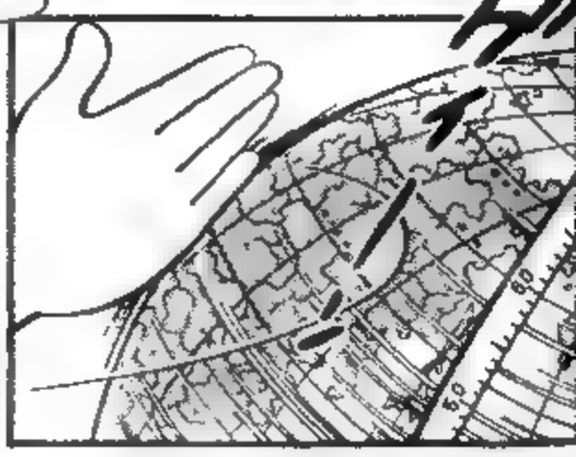
THAT PLANET WON'T LAST FOR LONG.

I CAN'T FIGURE OUT THE DETAILS,
BUT IF THIS IS TRUE...


PLANET?

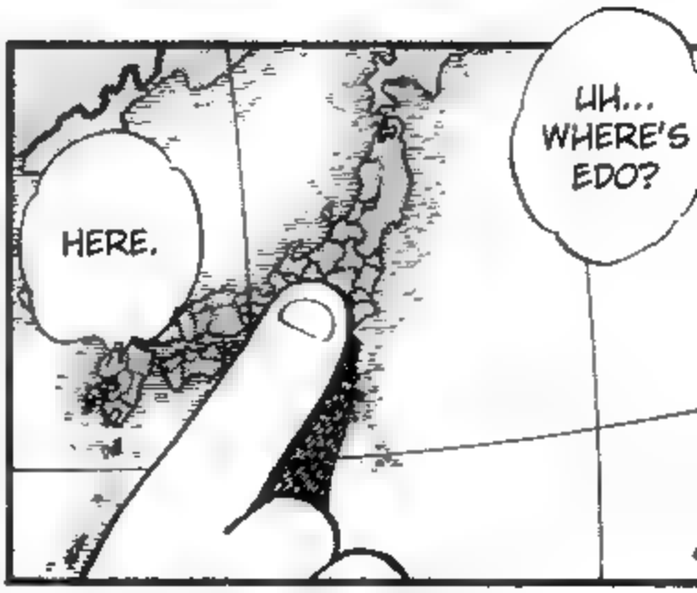


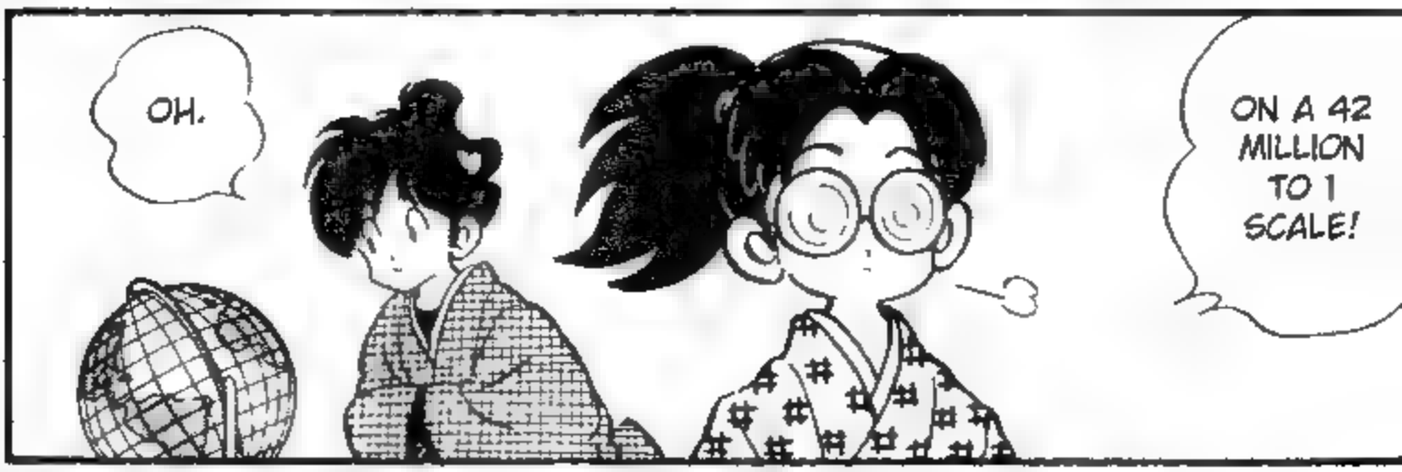
カラ
カラ
WHAT'S THIS?



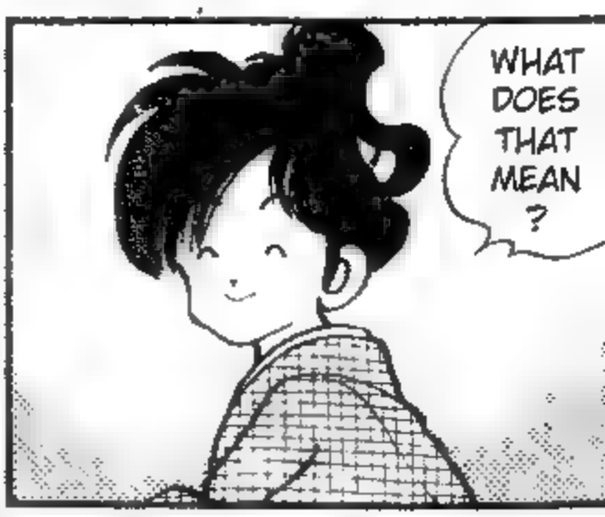
FORGET IT!
IT'S NOT GOING TO EXPLODE!
WHERE IS IT?
HERE.
HAH?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME WITH ME TO VISIT MY MOTHER'S GRAVE?
OKAY!
YOUR MOTHER'S ANNIVERSARY IS COMING SOON?
OH!

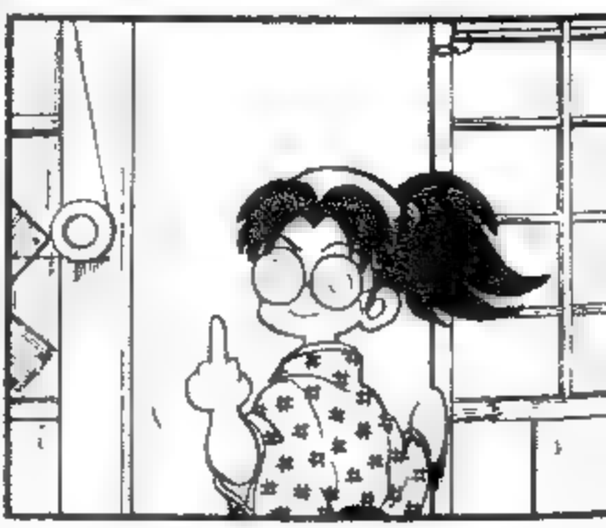
THEY'RE RIGHT NEXT TO EACH OTHER!


UH... WHERE'S EDO?
HERE.


OH.
ON A 42 MILLION TO 1 SCALE!

ONEESAN, I'M HUNGRY.
WAIT, I'LL MAKE SOME RICE BALLS.
OH! I WANT SOME TOO!


WHAT DOES THAT MEAN ?

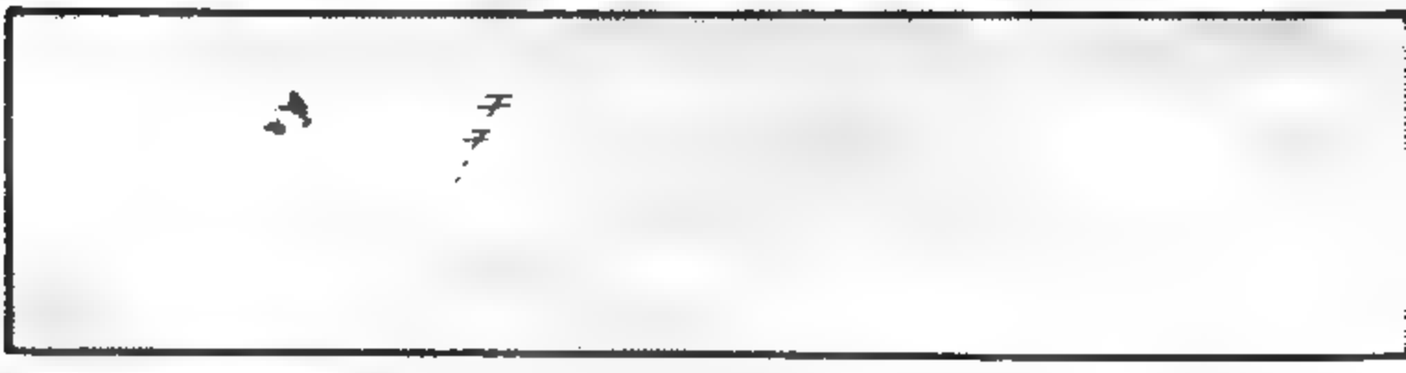


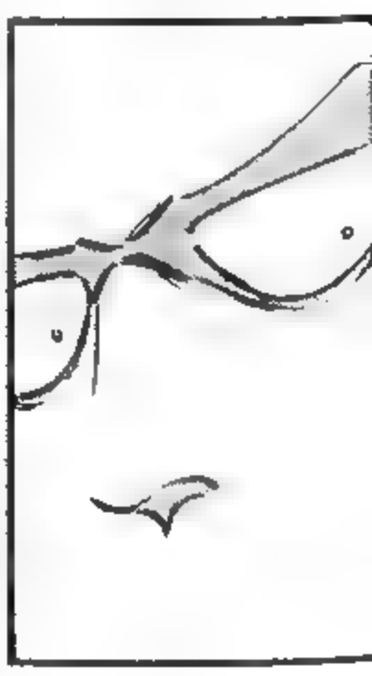
THE RED LIGHT LEGION'S DIRIGIBLE EXPLODED?
トーテーカーテー
THEY SAY ALL THE CORPSES WASHED ASHORE.
YUP!
SOME WERE EVEN DASHED TO PIECES ON THE REEFS!
WERE THEY STILL ALL WEARING THOSE MASKS?
YUP!

AND MAYBE NOT.
MAYBE...

GUESS THAT MEANS THEY'RE ALL DEAD.

IN ANY CASE, THERE'S NO WAY TO BE SURE.





I HEAR IT'S A 4 TO 5 DAY JOURNEY. I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF HIM GOING BY HIMSELF, SO I'M GOING WITH HIM.
YUP.
GOOD THINKING.
I HEAR YOU'RE GOING WITH CHINPI TO VISIT HIS MOTHER?
YOU KNOW, I HAVEN'T LEFT EDO FOR SOME TIME NOW...
WELL...
IT IS A GOOD SEASON FOR TRAVELLING.
YOU CAN COME WITH US, KESHIONIISAN!

A RESPECTABLE, KINDLY BEALITY WHO SMILED A LOT.

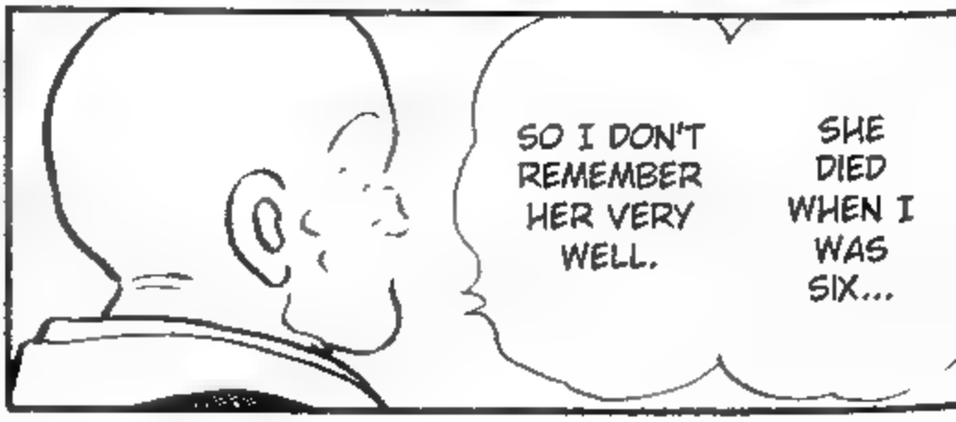
KESHI-ONIISAN, WHAT WAS YOUR MOTHER LIKE?

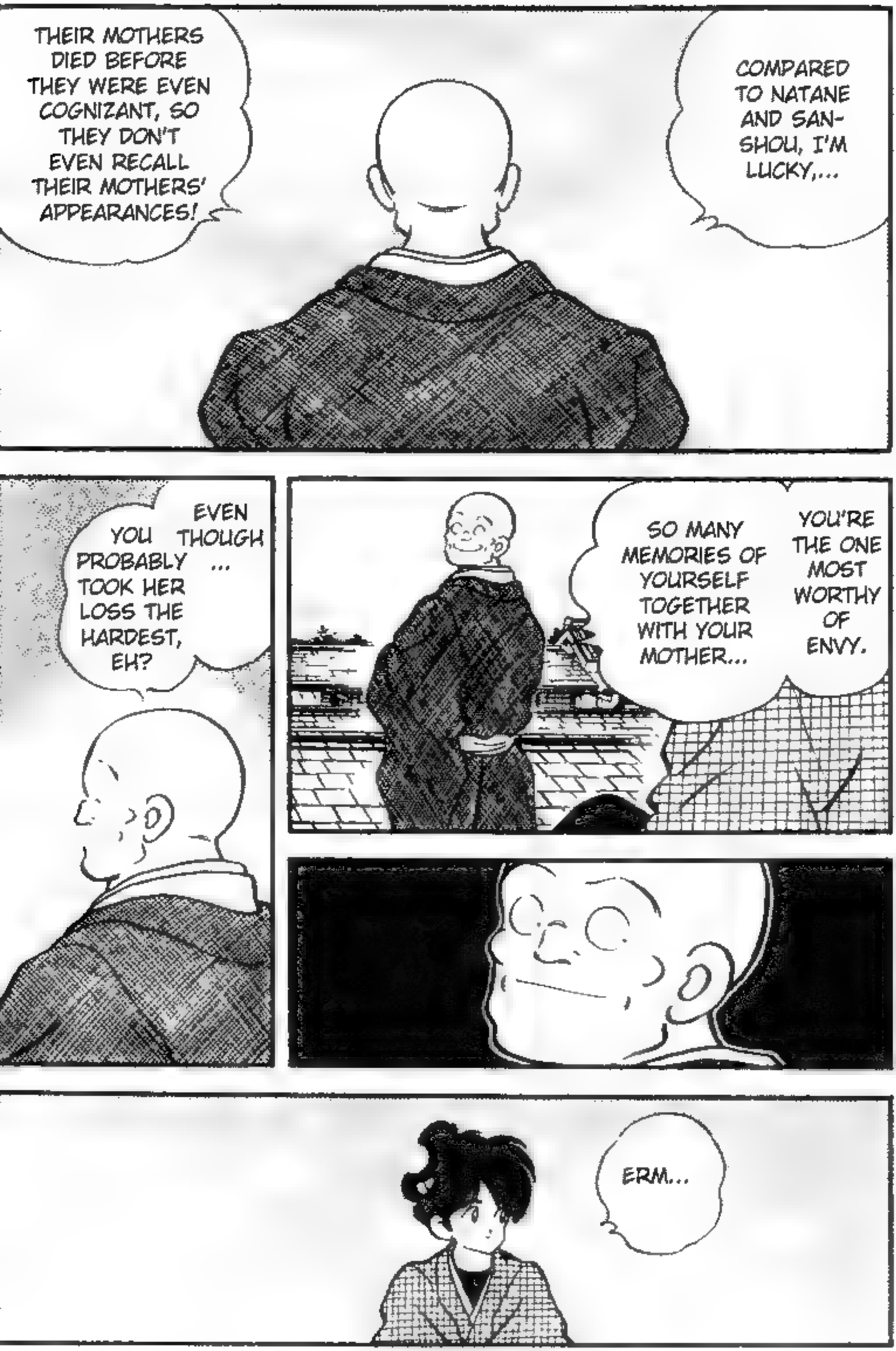
GOOD THINK-ING.

I HAVEN'T VISITED MY MOTHER FOR A WHILE, EITHER.
GET SOME EXER-CISE!

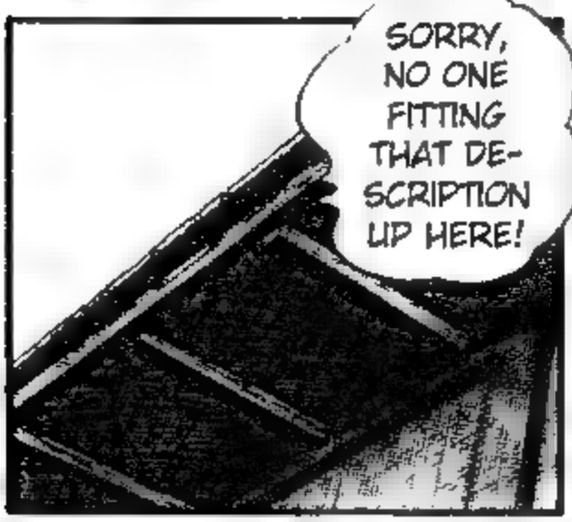
……

OR SO I'VE BEEN TOLD.

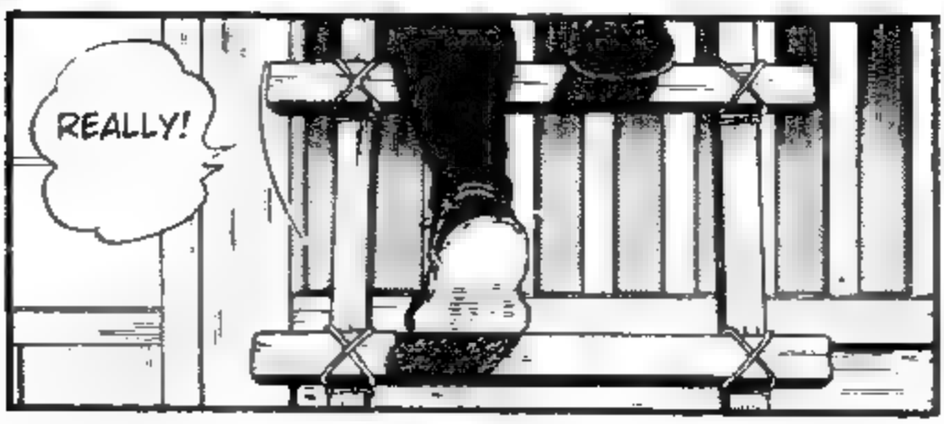

SO I DON'T REMEMBER HER VERY WELL.
SHE DIED WHEN I WAS SIX...


THEIR MOTHERS DIED BEFORE THEY WERE EVEN COGNIZANT, SO THEY DON'T EVEN RECALL THEIR MOTHERS' APPEARANCES!
COMPARED TO NATANE AND SAN-SHOU, I'M LUCKY,...
EVEN THOUGH YOU PROBABLY TOOK HER LOSS THE HARDEST, EH?
...
SO MANY MEMORIES OF YOURSELF TOGETHER WITH YOUR MOTHER...
YOU'RE THE ONE MOST WORTHY OF ENVY.
ERM...

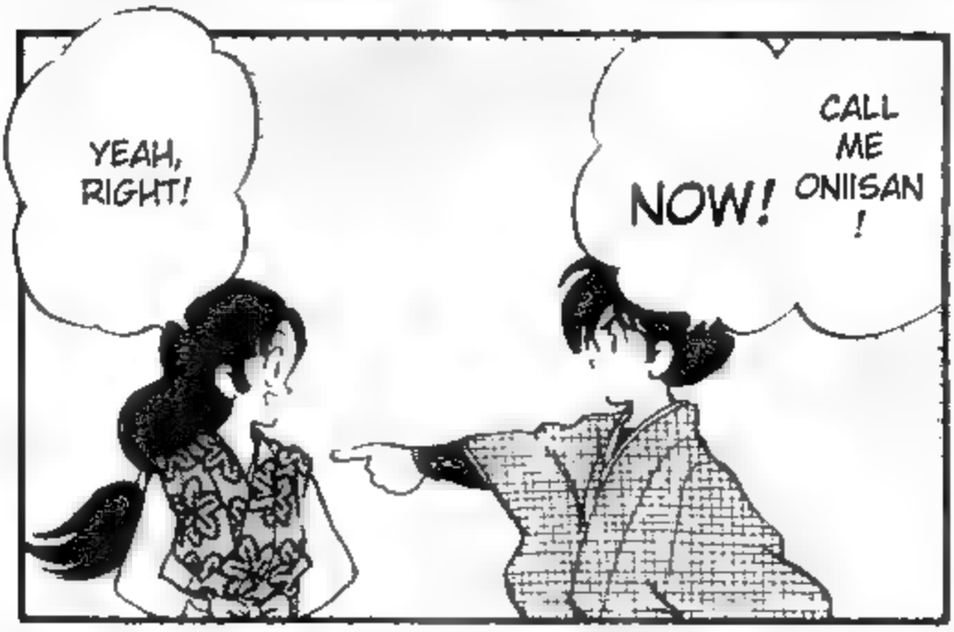
WHERE'S THE STUPID-LOOKING GUY THAT WAS WITH YOU?


SORRY, NO ONE FITTING THAT DE-SCRIPTION UP HERE!

SURE!
KESHI-ONIISAN, COULD YOU DO THAT ROOF TOO?


REALLY!

GET DOWN HERE! I'VE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU!


YEAH, RIGHT!
NOW!
CALL ME ONIISAN!

WANT TO WATCH A PLAY TOGETHER?
THEN I HAVE TO WASH MY FACE, EAT BREAK-FAST...
I HAVE TO FOLD MY FUTON IN THE MORNING!
TOMOR-ROW? OH, I'LL BE REAL BUSY.
YOU HAVE FREE TIME TOMORROW?
O-KAYO HAS TICKETS THAT SHE'LL SHARE WITH ME...
I HAVE A GOOD REASON!
LET ME FINISH!
WHAT? TRYING TO DATE ME?

I DON'T WANT TO WATCH A PLAY.
BUT I DO!

...ON THE CONDITION THAT YOU'LL COME, TOO.

WHAD-DAYA MEAN, CUTE?
COME ON, AREN'T YOU GOING TO GIVE IN WHEN YOUR CUTE SISTER BEGS YOU?

ヲヲヲ・・・

SAN-SHOU! CARE-FUL!
THAT'S A WEAK SPOT...!

THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL, "A MAN FROM HEAVEN"!
ONEESAN, I'M HUNGRY!
MEOW!
WHAT? I HAVEN'T ACCEPTED YET!
ALRIGHT! THANKS.

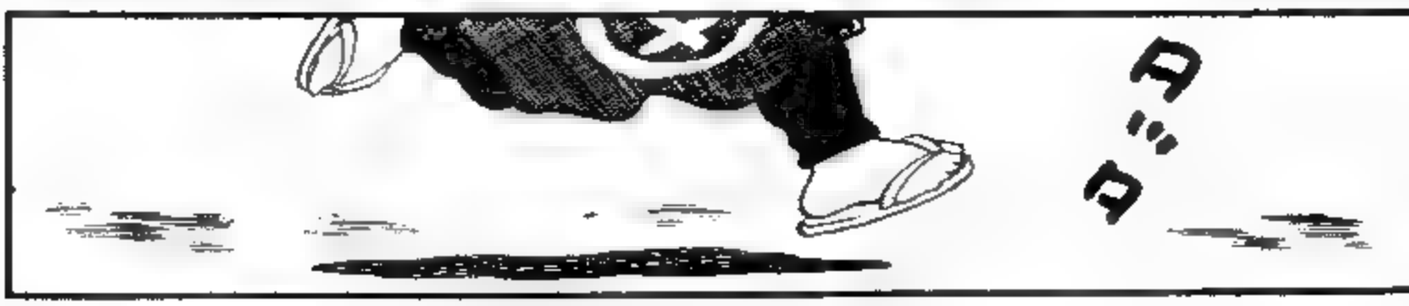
幸運の巻
—LUCKY—

WHERE'S O-KAYO?

GO OVER THERE AND LOOK FOR HER.
GO YOUR-SELF.

THE PLAY'S GOING TO START WITHOUT HER.

HO HUM.


ﾀﾀﾀ

I'M YOHEI, A SERVANT FROM SHINETSU-YA.
呼

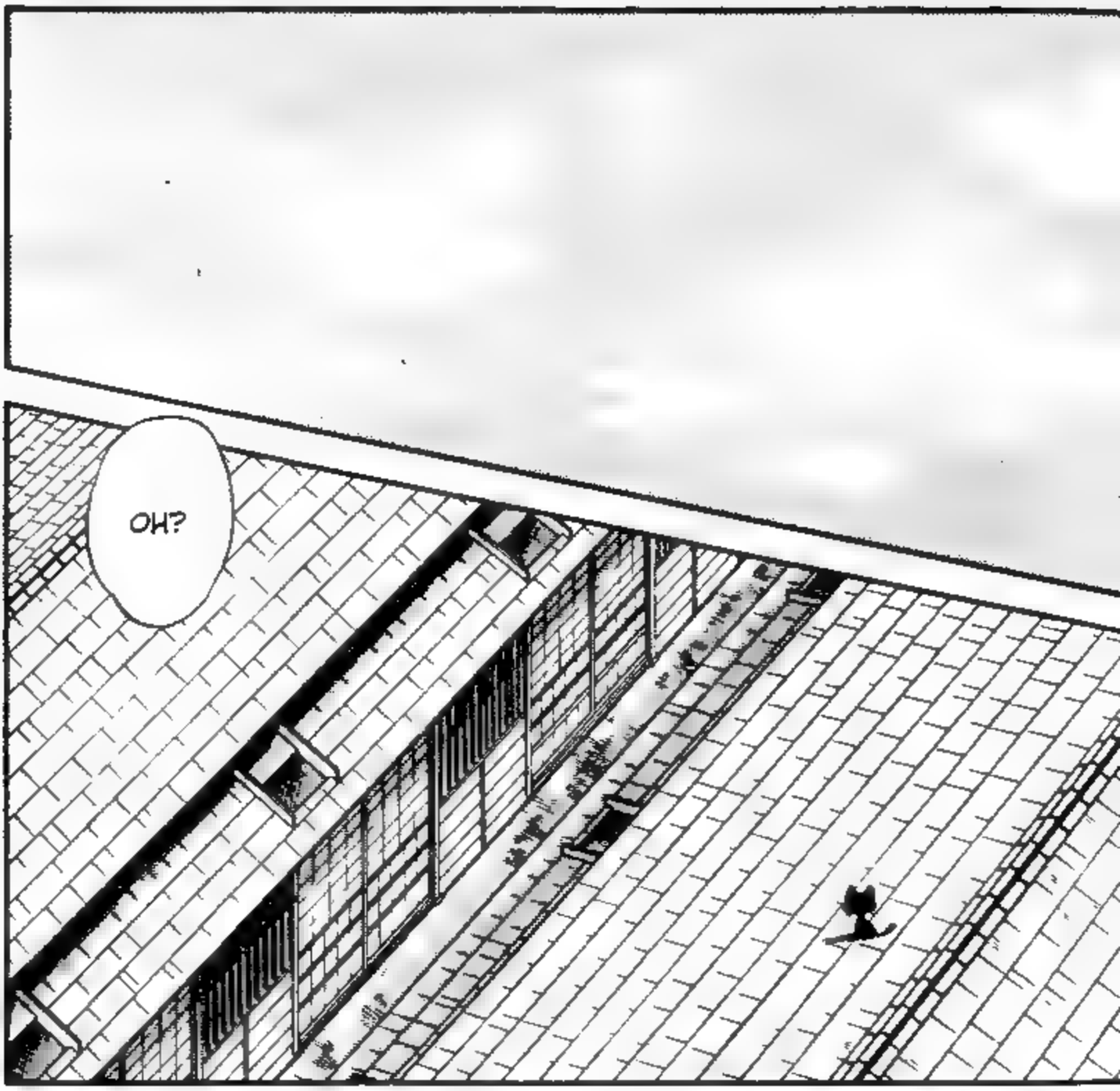
ARE YOU MISS NATANE, FROM THE KARAKURI TENE-MENTS?
呼

MISS O-KAYO WANTED ME TO GIVE YOU THESE TICKETS.

I'LL BE OFF THEN!
AN URGENT MESSAGE FROM A RELATIVE, MISS COULDN'T COME HERSELF.
SO SORRY!
WHERE IS SHE?
ESPE-CIALLY TOWARDS MASTER SHICHIMI!
SHE'S VERY SORRY,
トコ トコ トコ トコ

ちよーーん
ちろ

WHAT'S THAT IDIOT DOING?
SHUSH!
WHAT-EVER, BUT...
WITH ALL THIS SCREAMING, HOW CAN ANYONE HEAR HIM?
HIS NAME'S YUMESA-BURO TAWARA ...
CURRENTLY, HE'S THE MOST HANDSOME AND MOST POPULAR ACTOR IN EDO.
IT MEANS THEY LIKE HIM!
OR HOW CAN YOU HEAR ME, FOR THAT MATTER?
HE'S SO MANLY. I COULD WATCH HIM FOREVER.
A MAN SHOULDN'T BE SUCH A SHOW-OFF.
I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

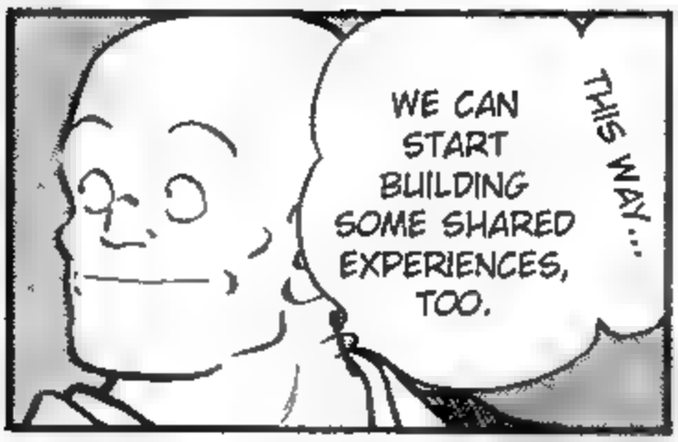

OH?

大人
GOOD IDEA.

YOU'RE GOING ON A GRAVE VISIT?

YOU'RE TOO LITTLE.
WANNA GO!
IT IS BETTER TO HAVE SOMEONE ALONG.
HEY! WANNA GO TOO!
BETTER PREPARE THE SACRIFICIAL PROPS.
I WANNA GO!
DON'T CARE!
HOW ABOUT IF WE ALL GO?
KESHI!
WAA...
OKAY, OKAY!

...AND WE CAN ALSO VISIT THE DIFFERENT PLACES WHERE WE ALL GREW UP.
THAT WAY, WE CAN ALL UNDER-STAND EACH OTHER BETTER...

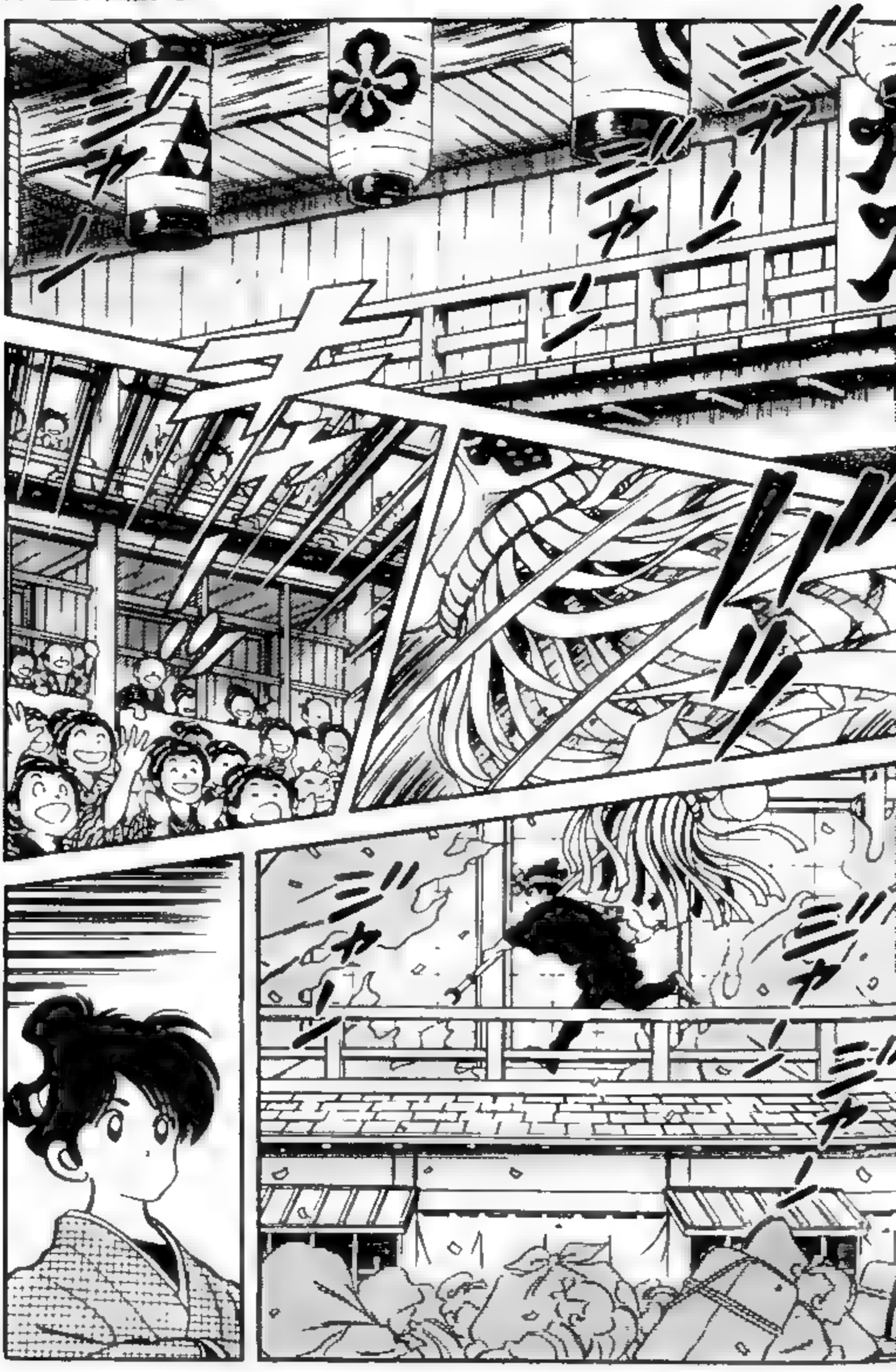

THIS WAY...
WE CAN START BUILDING SOME SHARED EXPERIENCES, TOO.

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY

WE CAN LEAVE A MESSAGE TELLING HIM TO CATCH UP.
HE SHOULD BE BACK SOON.
HOW ABOUT ASAJIROU-ONIISAN?

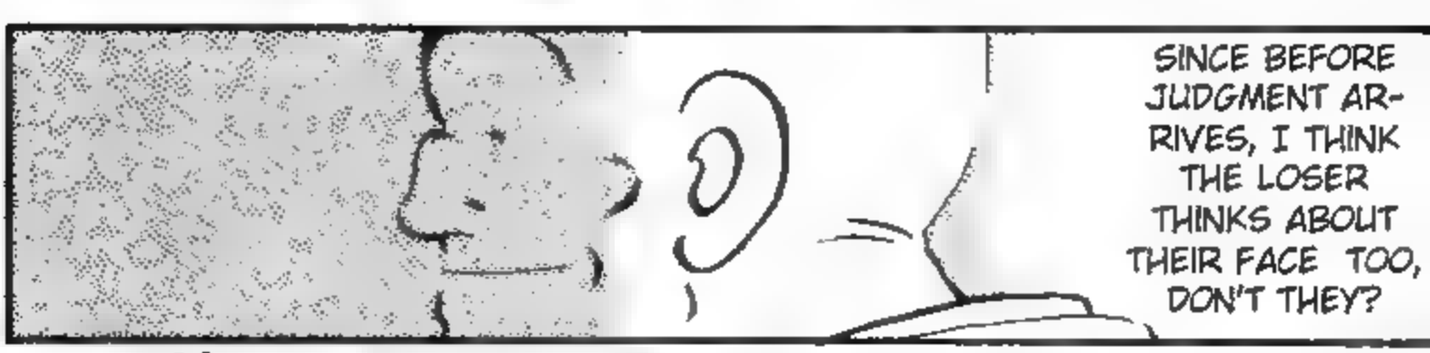
MAYBE WE CAN FIGURE OUT WHO OUR FATHER REALLY IS.
WHEN WE'RE TRAVELING,

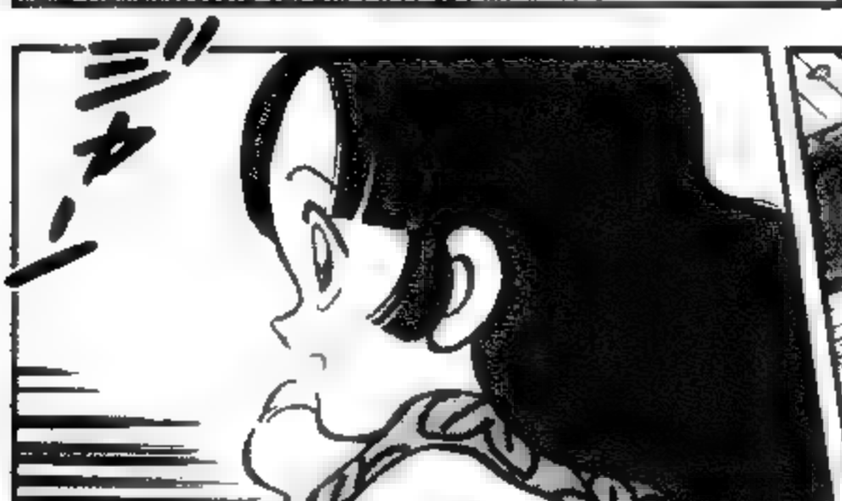
HA-
CHOO!



CHIEF...

YOU'RE JUST ENVIOUS, YOU KNOW.


SINCE BEFORE JUDGMENT ARRIVES, I THINK THE LOSER THINKS ABOUT THEIR FACE TOO, DON'T THEY?



NO IT ISN'T!
IT'S BEING YUMESABUROU THAT MAKES HIM COOL!
STUPID!
キャー
WHAT?
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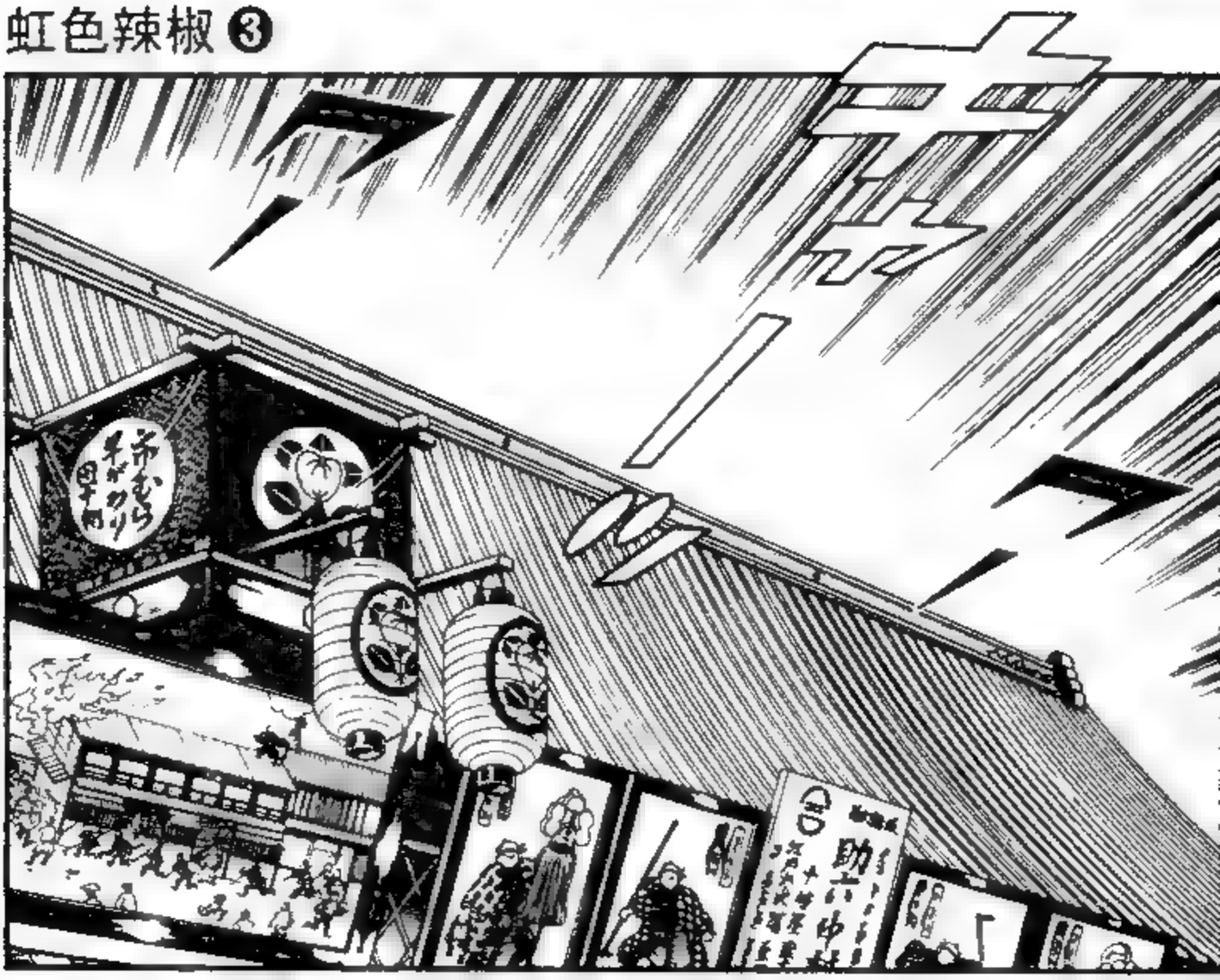
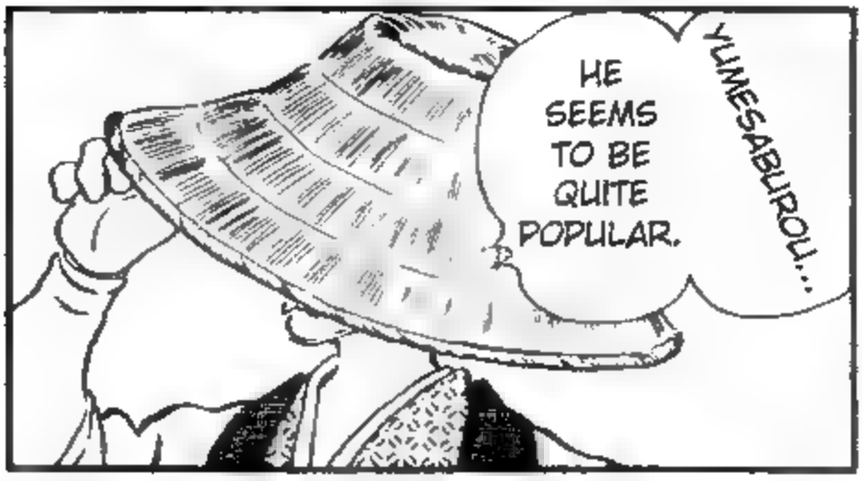
I SAID, IT'S BEING A FIREFIGHTER THAT MAKES HIM COOL!
HI!
HE'D BE COOL EVEN AS A MANGA-KA!
ちょー




HE SEEMS TO BE QUITE POPULAR.
YUMESABUROU...

OH?

I'VE HEARD SOME NASTY RUMORS ABOUT HIM.

ONLY MEN WHO CAN'T GET THEIR OWN GIRLS WOULD SPREAD SUCH A SILLY STORY.
煙草
FROM THE AUDIENCE, INVITES THEM TO DINNER, AND DRUGS THEIR DRINKS.
THEY SAY THAT AFTER EACH PERFORMANCE, HE PICKS GIRLS
HEE HEE!
THEN HE...
OH?
I CAN ATTEST TO THAT.
BEING POPULAR WITH THE LADIES ISN'T SO GREAT!
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE HERE TO WATCH THE PLAY?
OUT OF ALL THE GIRLS IN THE AUDIENCE, THERE AREN'T MANY PRETTY ONES...
FUNNY...
ガヤ
ガヤ

GONG!
GONG!
NOT MUCH.
I'D SAY, ONLY THREE OF THEM ARE WORTH LOOKING AT.
I BETTER BE ONE OF YOUR THREE!
AND YOU!
AND YOU!
YOU!
WHO GET TO BE TONIGHT'S DINNER GUESTS OF YUMESA-BUROU!
BY RANDOM SELECTION, THESE THREE ARE OUR LUCKY WINNERS

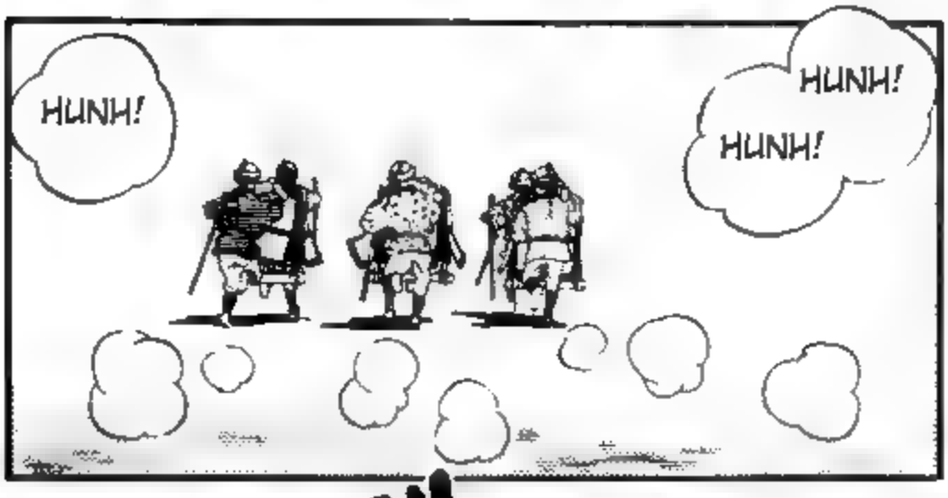
GREAT!
I'M SO DISAP-POINTED!
OH! DARN IT!
RANDOM SELEC-TION?
THESE THREE?
ちょーーーん
HEH, WHAT A COINCI-DENCE.

YOU'RE NOISY

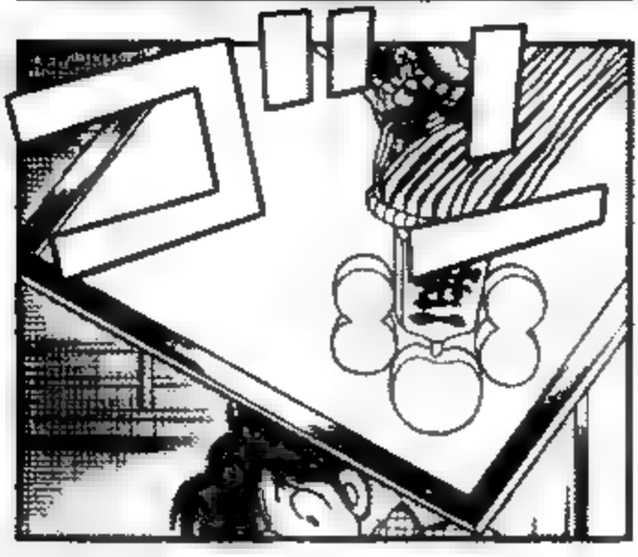
I SEE.
HM.
HAHA!
SORRY, BUT ONLY THESE THREE ARE INVITED.
3
2
1
LET'S GO, GIRLS.
I'M NUMBER 2'S BODY-GUARD..

YES, PLEASE.
TO TSUDAYA

YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF DINNER.


HUNH!
HUNH!
HUNH!

H!!



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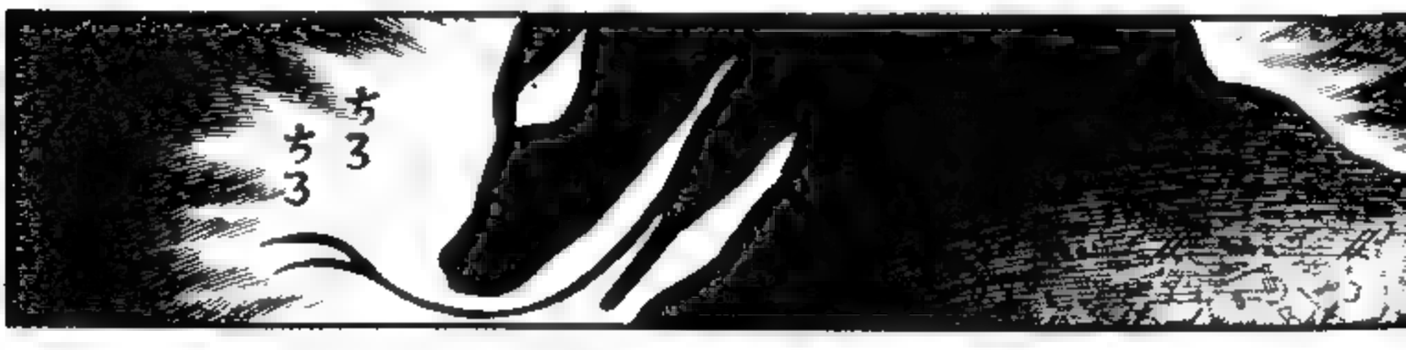
WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT HIM?

EDO'S MOST POPULAR, MOST HANDSOME ACTOR!
YUMESA-BUROU TAWARA!

I'LL NEVER UNDER-STAND GIRLS.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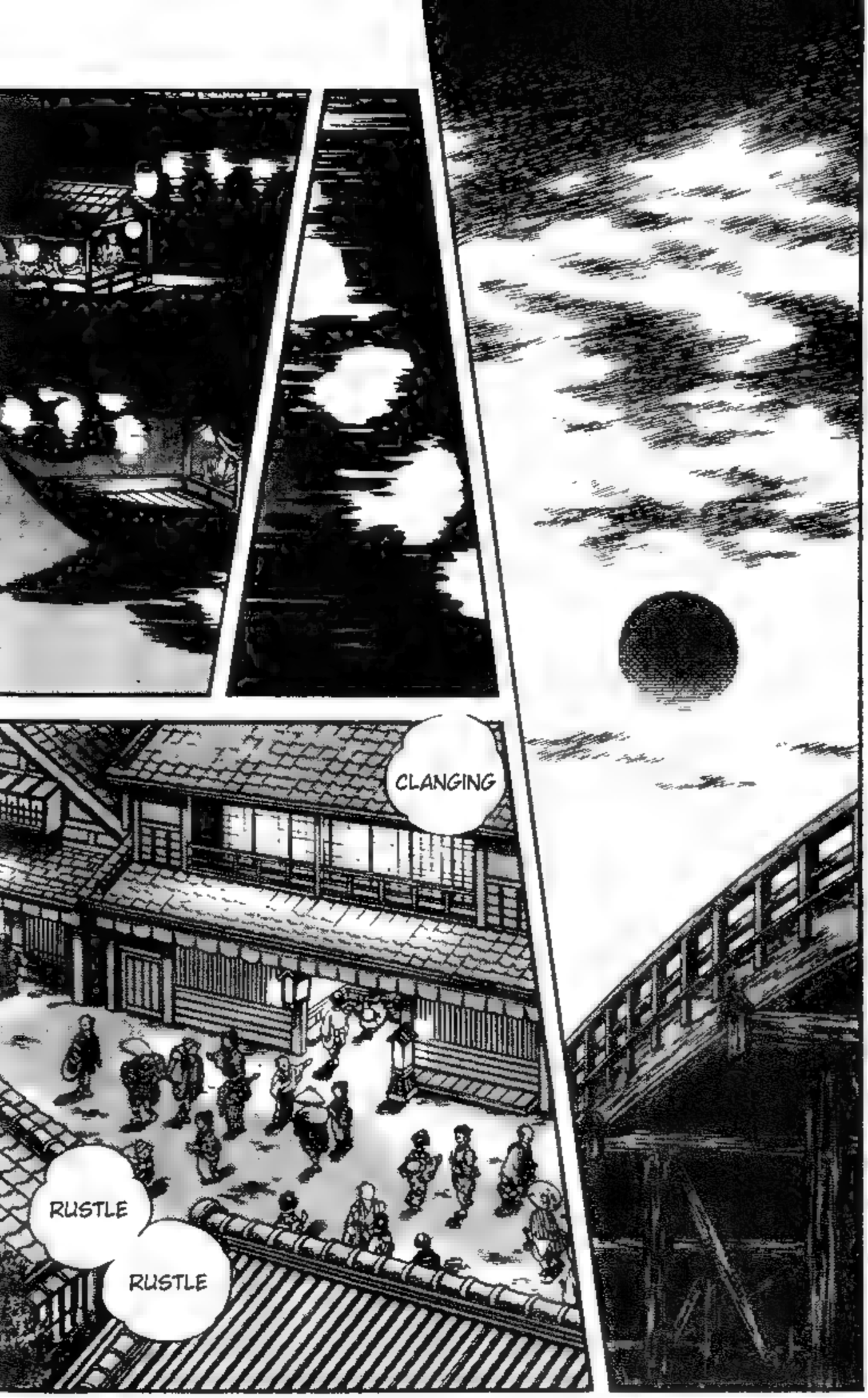
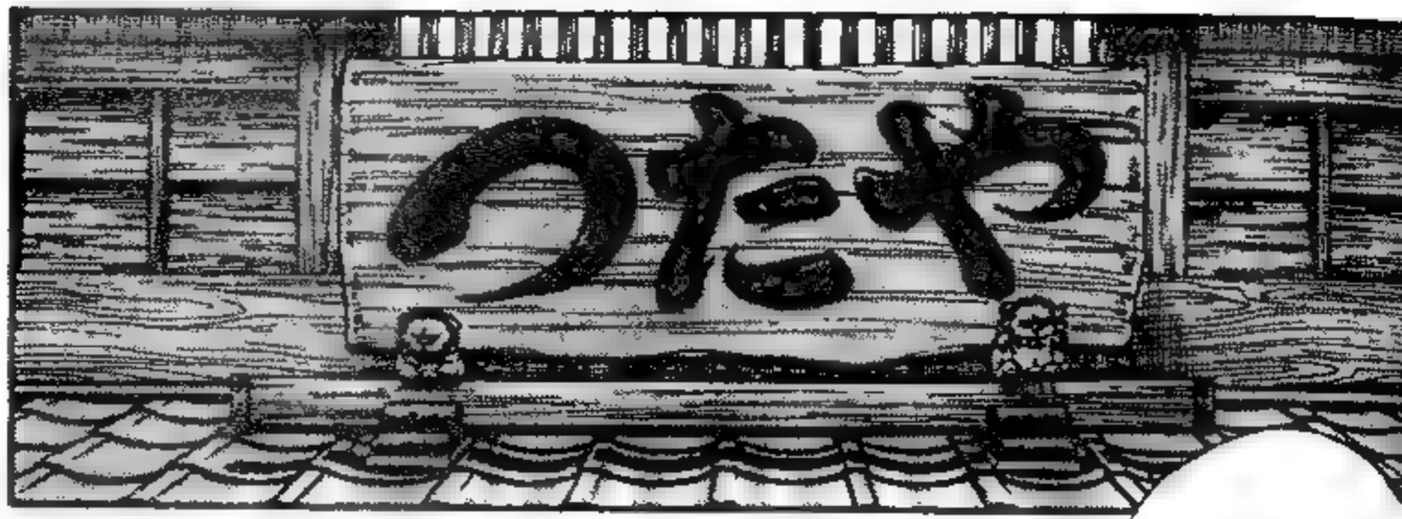
3

MIGHT AS WELL GO HOME.


CLANGING
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

※「つたや」―「滋多屋」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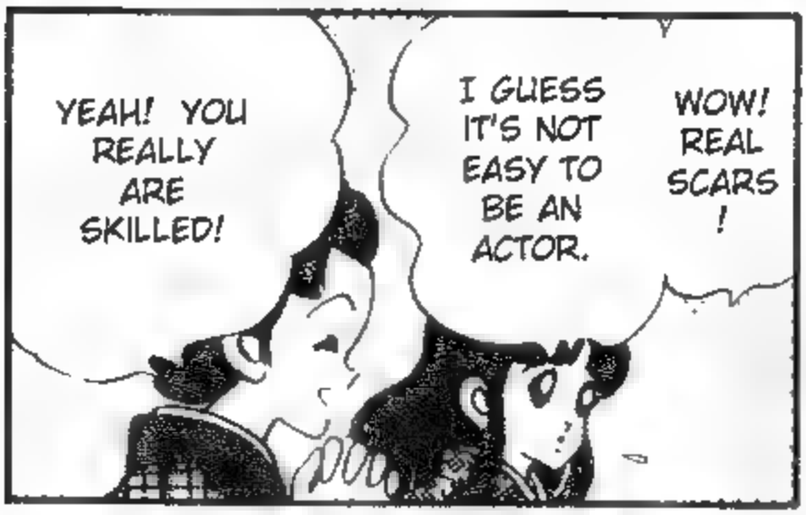
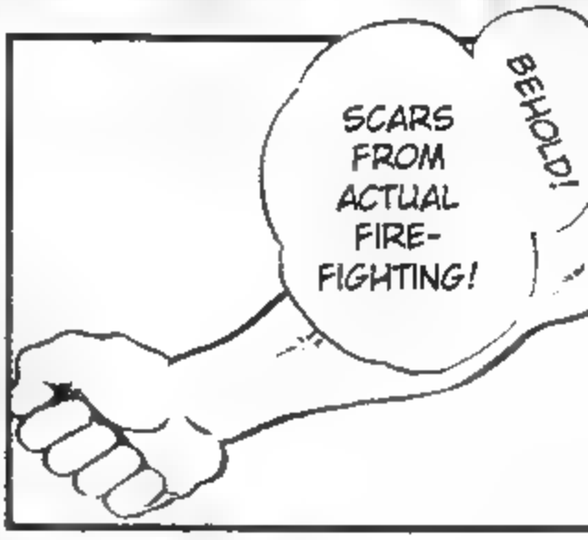
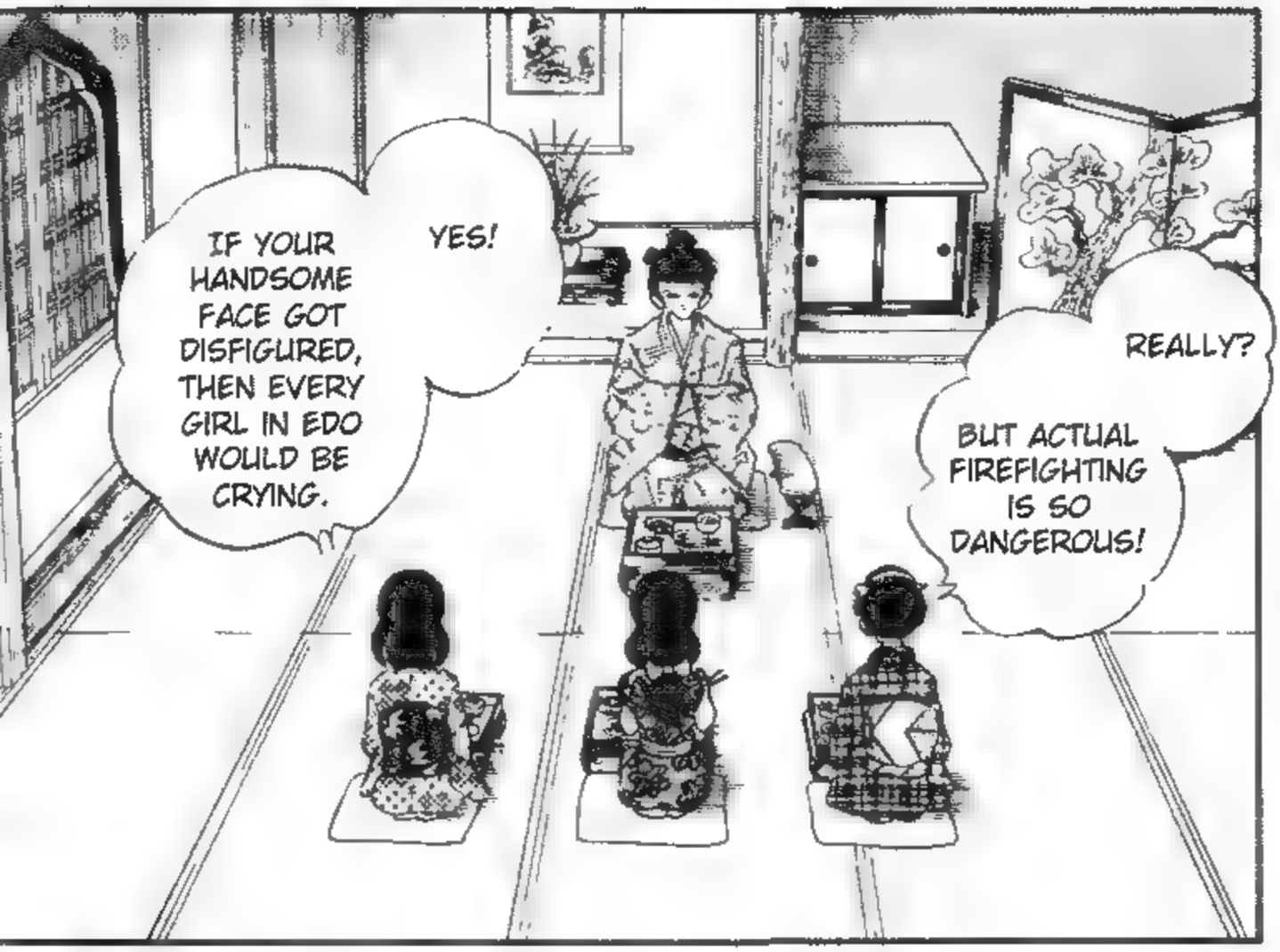
I HAD TO APPRENTICE UNDER THE FIRE CHIEF FOR SIX MONTHS.
SOMETIMES I WAS ACTUALLY ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE!


YEAH! YOU REALLY ARE SKILLED!
I GUESS IT'S NOT EASY TO BE AN ACTOR.
WOW! REAL SCARS!


SCARS FROM ACTUAL FIRE-FIGHTING!
BEHOLD!

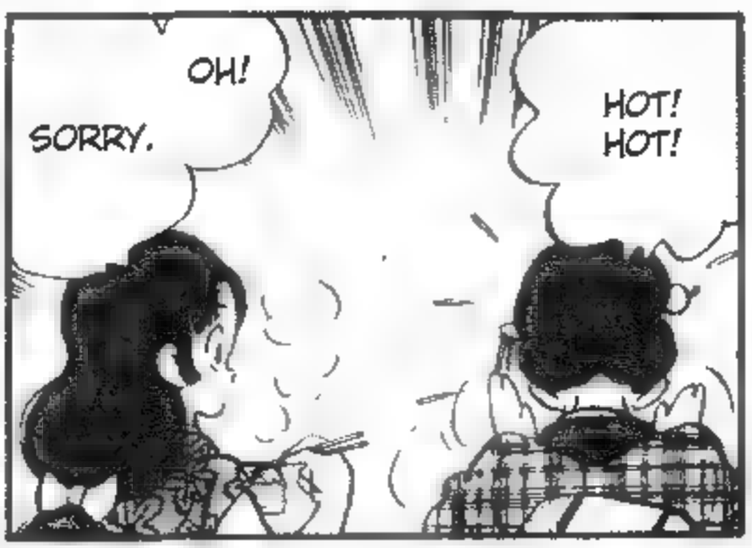
DEDICATED TO BEING THE MOST POPULAR ENTERTAINER IN JAPAN.
YOU CAN'T FIND ANOTHER PERSON AS DEDICATED AS I IN ALL OF JAPAN!

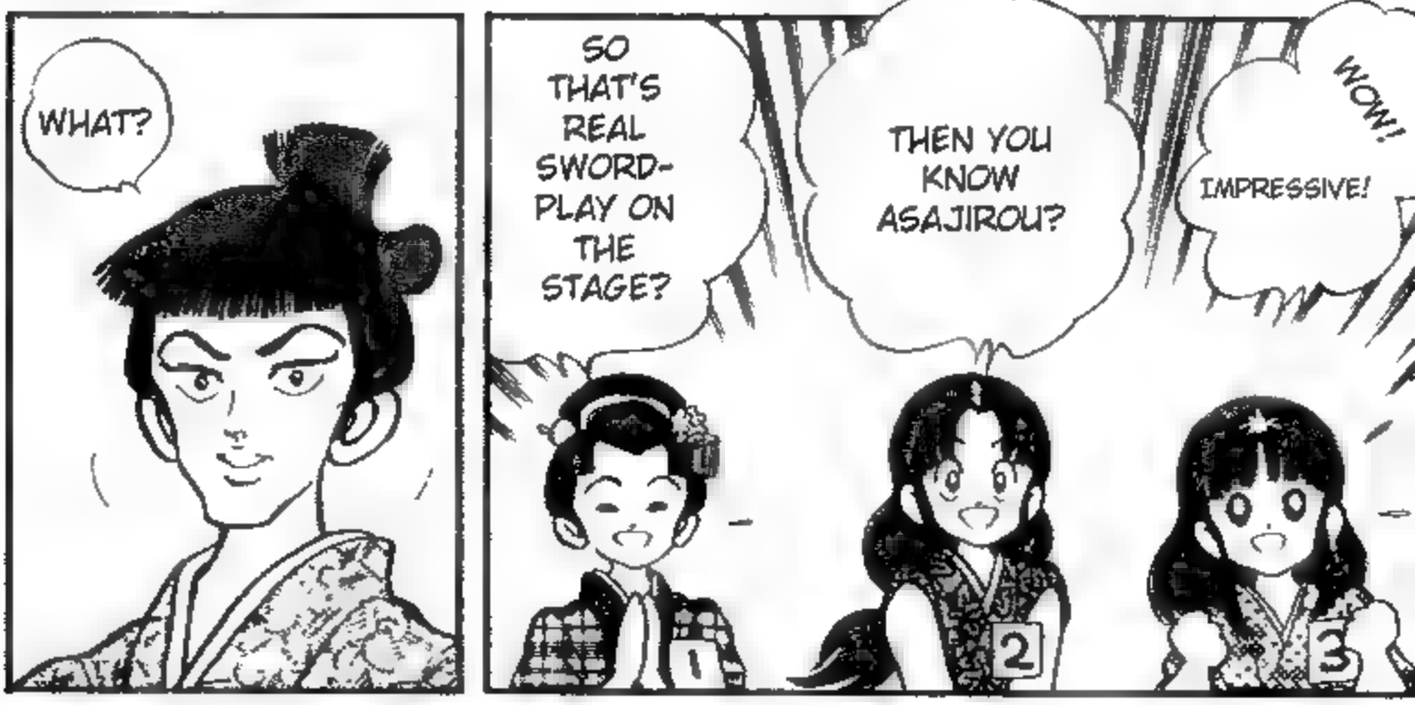

IF YOUR HANDSOME FACE GOT DISFIGURED, THEN EVERY GIRL IN EDO WOULD BE CRYING.
YES!
REALLY?
BUT ACTUAL FIREFIGHTING IS SO DANGEROUS!

HANIWA-NEN STYLE SWORD-PLAY.
YUP.

OH YES, I HEAR YOUR SWORD-FIGHTING SKILLS WERE FROM ONE OF THE SECRET SCHOOLS.

YEAH! BETTER LEAVE JOBS LIKE THAT TO THOSE UGLY COMMONERS!

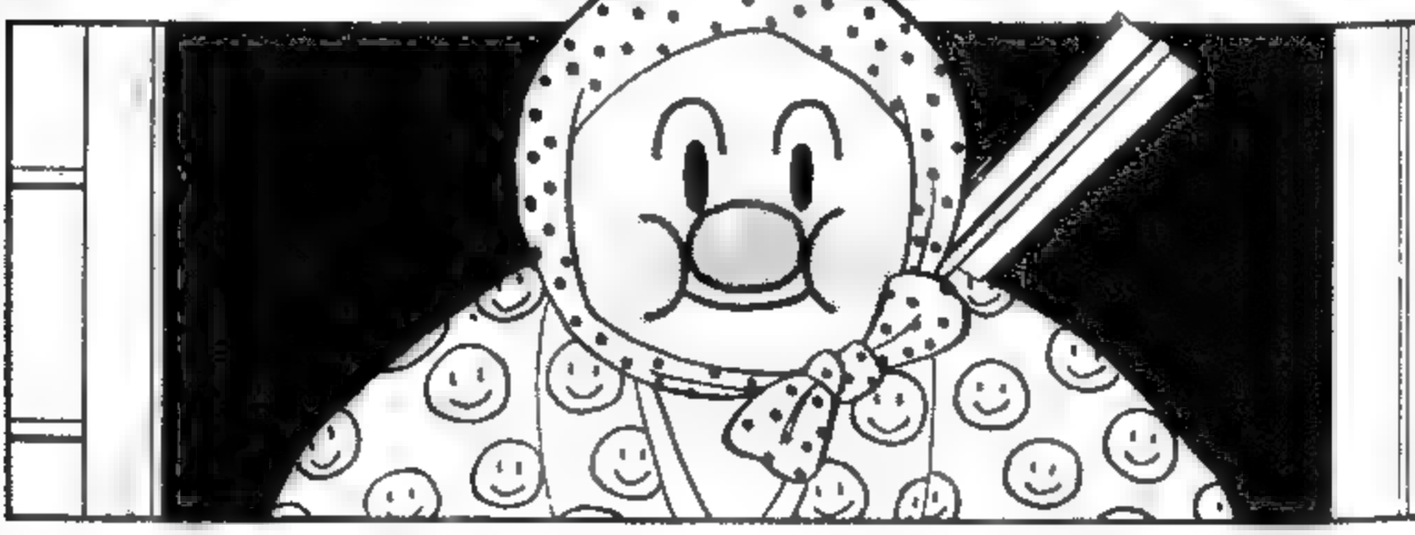

OH!
SORRY.
HOT! HOT!


WHAT?
SO THAT'S REAL SWORD-PLAY ON THE STAGE?
THEN YOU KNOW ASAJIROU?
WOW! IMPRESSIVE!
1
2
3

ガラ!!!

HE'S A FOLLOWER OF HANIWA-NEN STYLE AS WELL.
ASAJIROU.

THERE ARE A LOT OF DIFFERENT HANIWA-NEN BRANCHES, SO, UM..
UM,

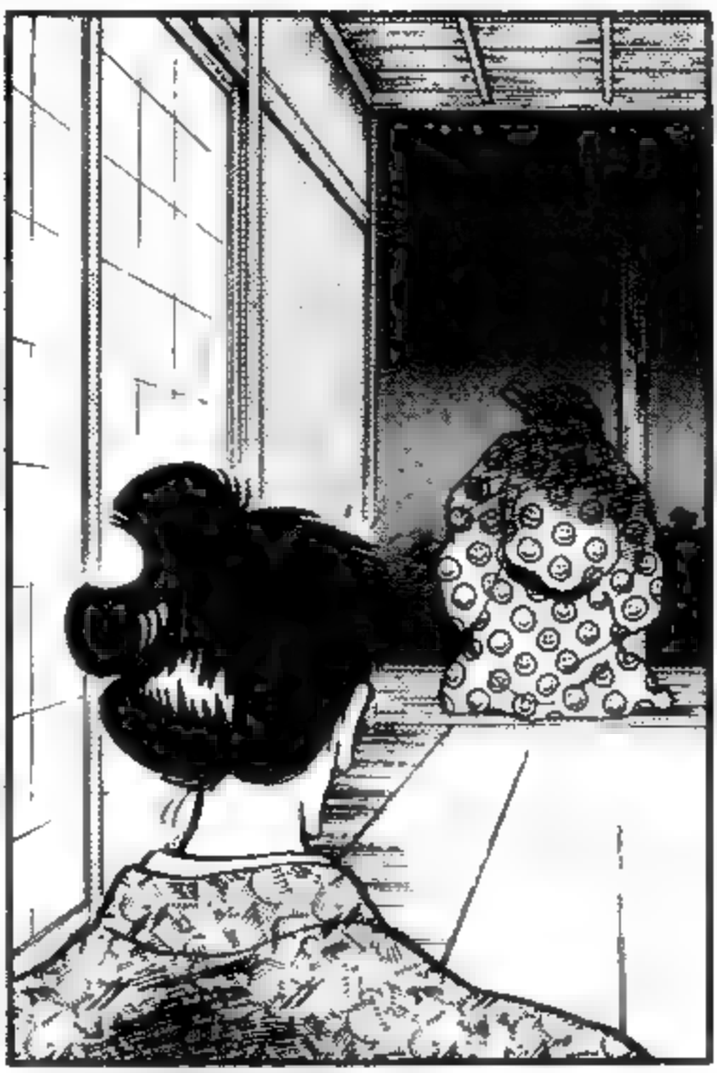


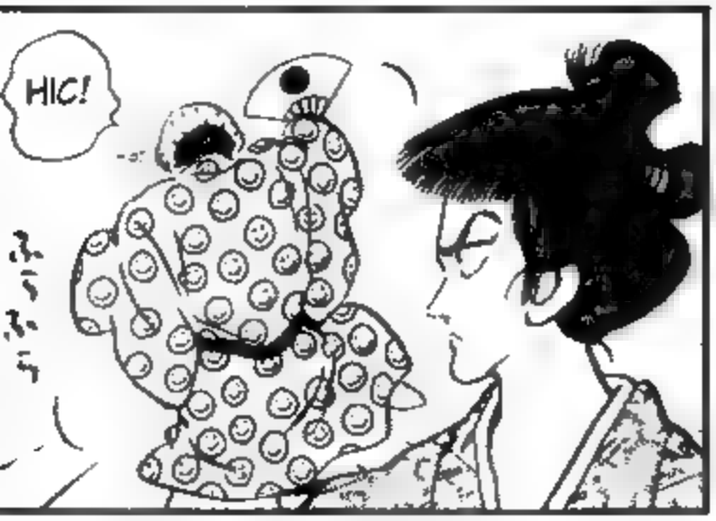
HUH ?
HIC!
SORRY! SORRY!
HIC!
WRONG ROOM.
SORRY ...
YEAH!
I HATE DRUNK-ARDS!
OH!
GIRLS, EAT UP!

DID YOU DRUG THEIR SOUP, AS USUAL?
YES, SIR.
ALL THREE ARE CUTE TODAY!
HEY HEY! ♡
YOU KNOW ME QUITE WELL, I SEE.
YUP!
SO, BRO, YOU LIKE NUMBER 2, NATANE THE BEST?
YOUR FACE..
.
HIC.
OH! BRO!
HEH!
DON'T WORRY.
BOSS, DON'T FORGET US.

HUM.

HUH?
HAVEN'T YOU FOUND YOUR ROOM YET?

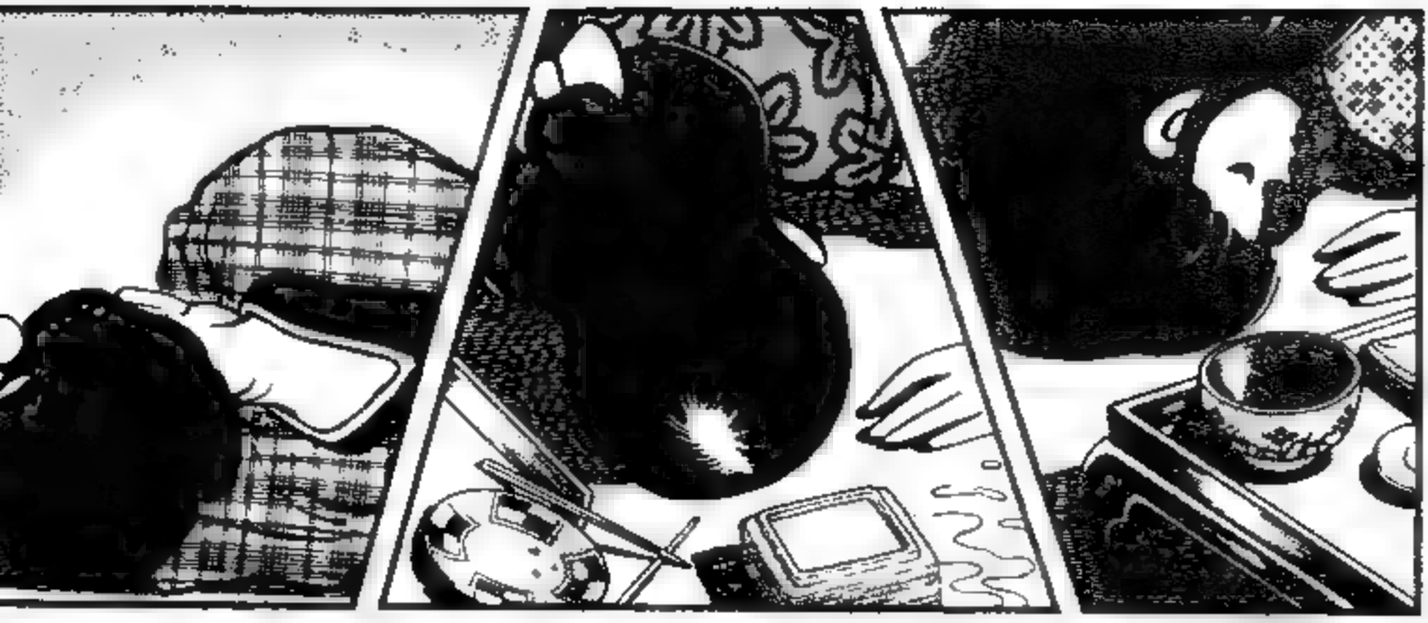


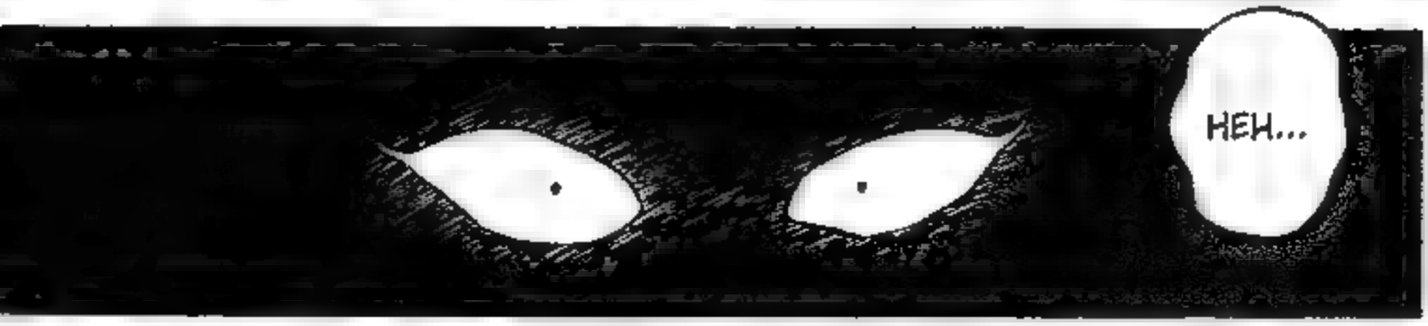

HIC!

HMM ...
DRUNKARD?

THAT DRUNK-ARD SEEMED TO BE SNOOPING OUTSIDE.
NOTHING.
WHAT IS IT?

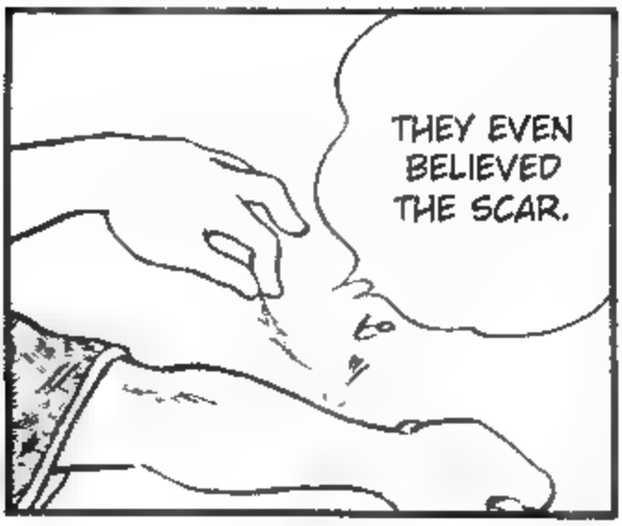
OH...
AH... ARE YOU ALL FINISHED?
YES! IT WAS SO DE-LICIOUS!
EVEN THE SOUP, I SEE.
THAT'S JUST GREAT.
ゴォ



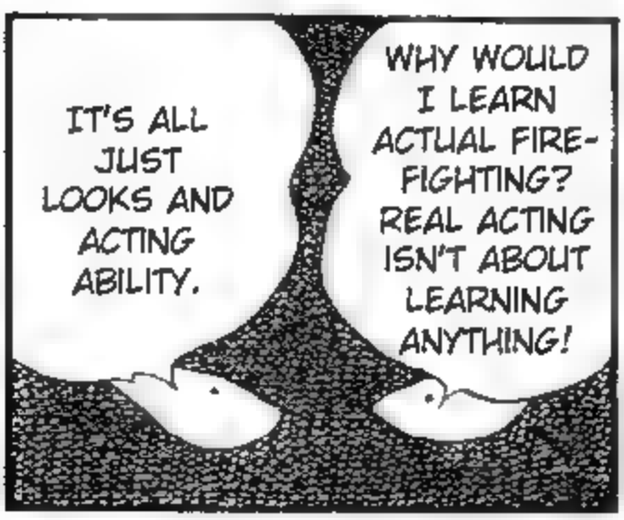

HEH...

COME IN!
"SOUP'S" ON!

HEE HEE...
HEH.


THEY EVEN BELIEVED THE SCAR.

EVEN WHEN COMPARED TO "KINJI THE FIRE-FIGHTER," YOU'RE STILL THE BEST AT SEDUCING WOMEN.
BOSS! YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD ACTOR!
HMPH!

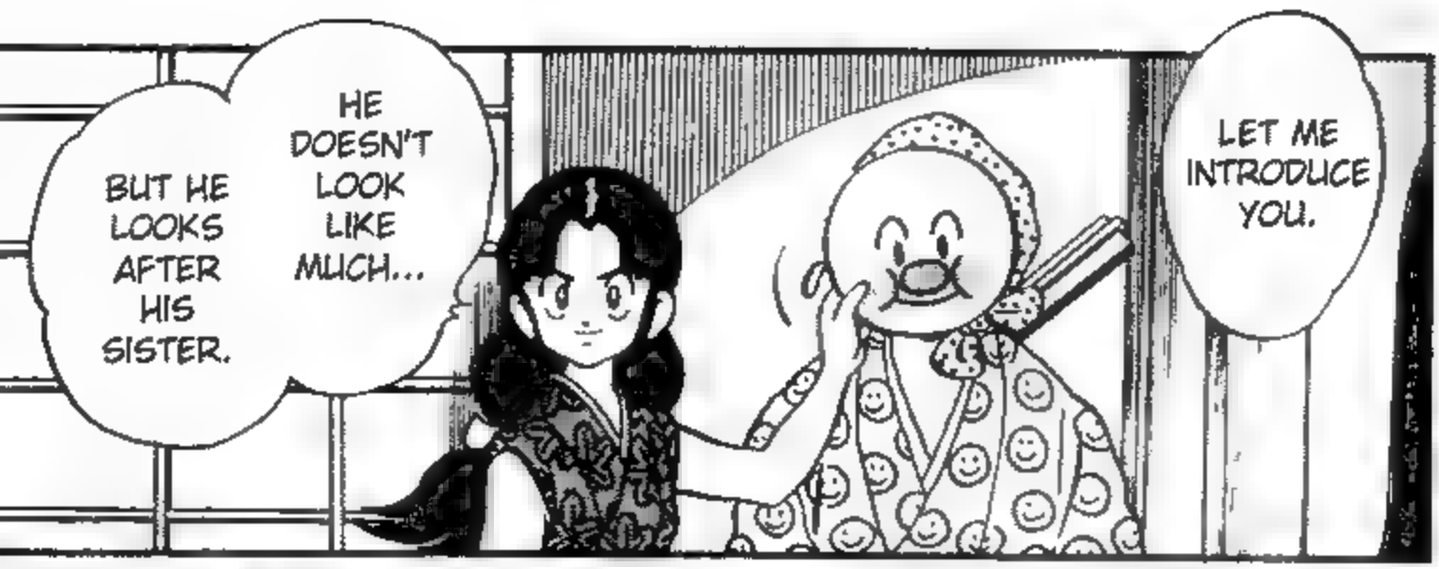

IT'S ALL JUST LOOKS AND ACTING ABILITY.
WHY WOULD I LEARN ACTUAL FIRE-FIGHTING? REAL ACTING ISN'T ABOUT LEARNING ANYTHING!

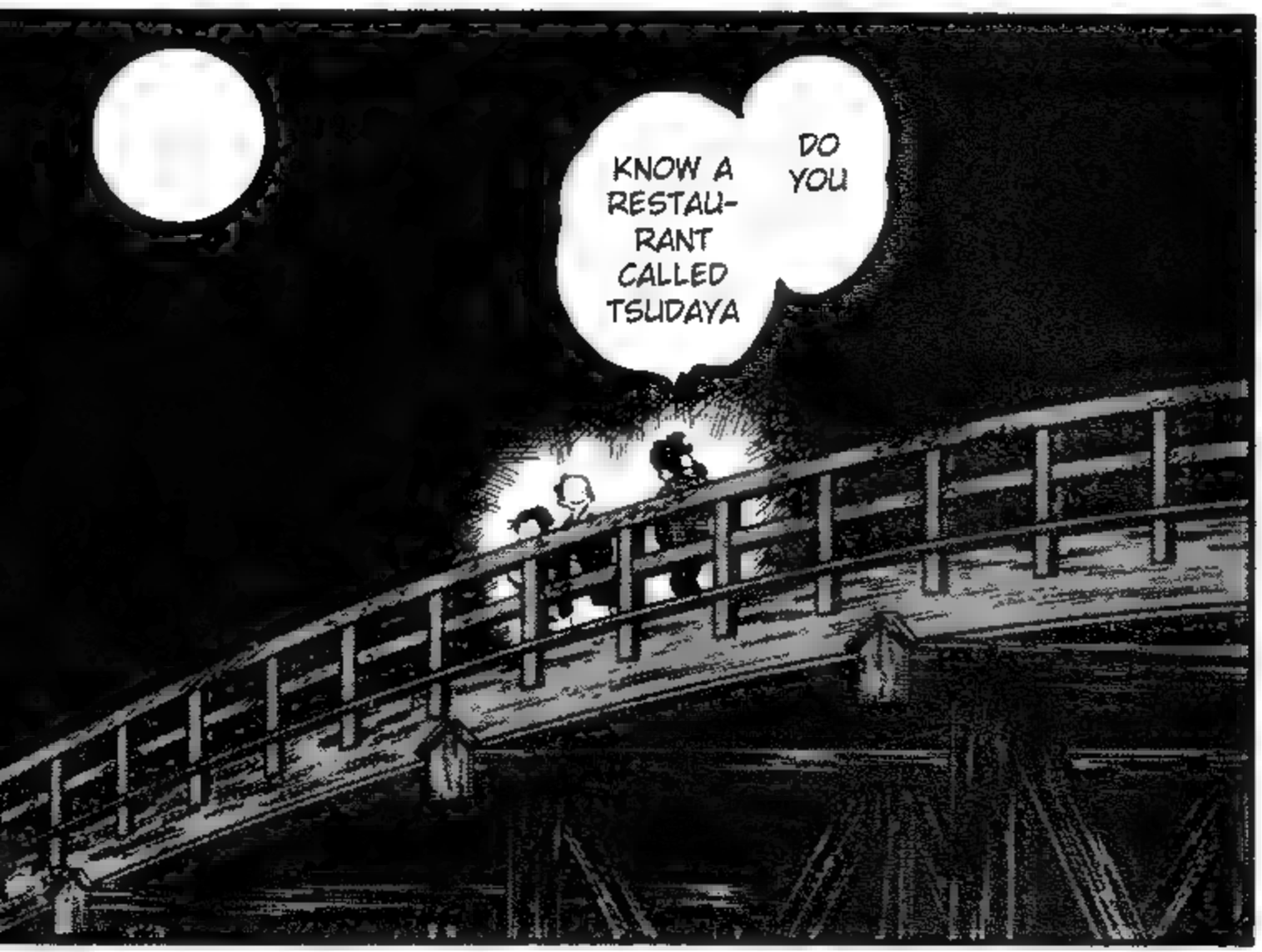
NO WONDER YOU DIDN'T KNOW MY BROTHER'S NAME. YOU BETTER WATCH IT!

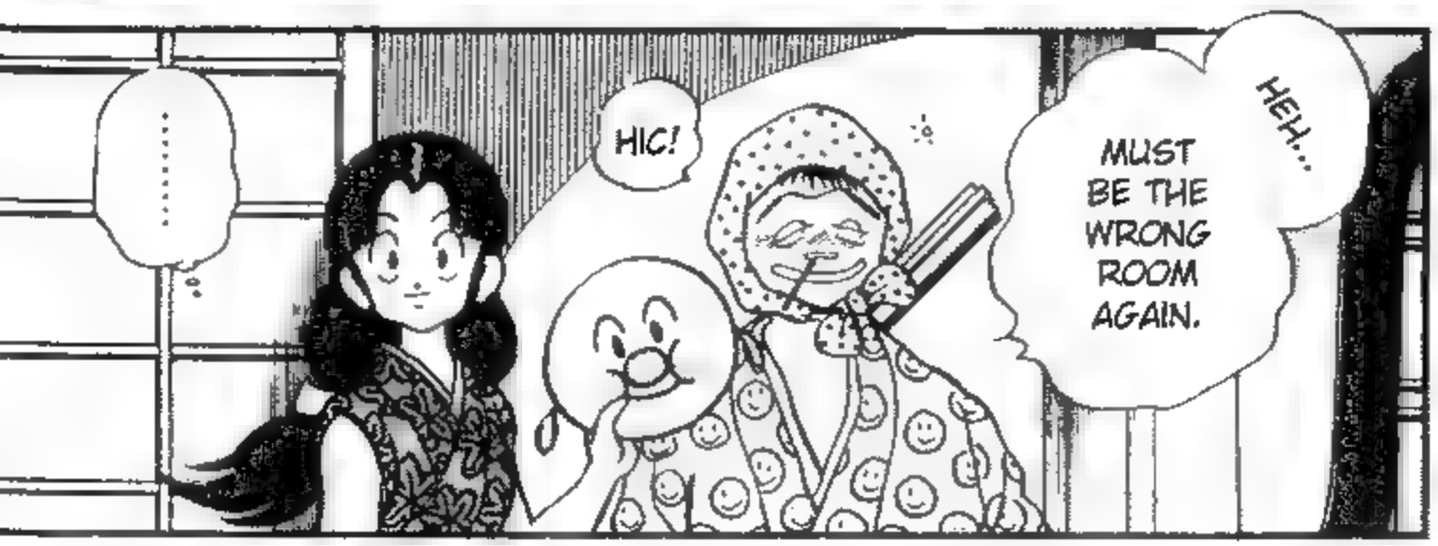
AND LIKE FOOLS, THEY TOOK IT...
EVEN THE HANIWA-NEN STYLE LINE WAS FAKE.

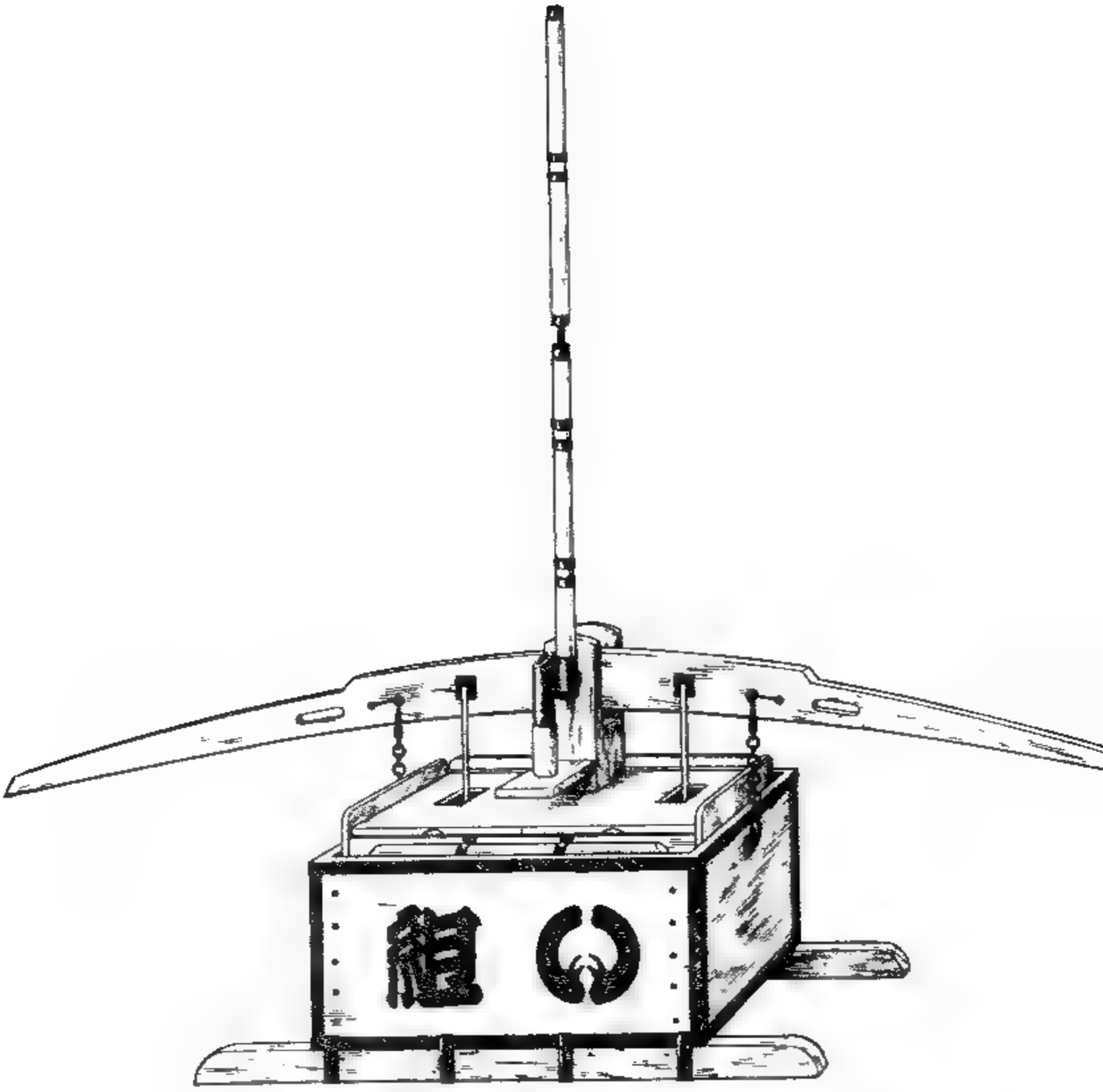
YOU SEE, MY BROTHER HOLDS THE RECORD FOR
MASTERING HANIWA-NEN STYLE IN THE SHORTEST TIME!
I HATE SCALLIONS! I DIDN'T WANT TO BE EMBARRASSED, SO I LET THE FLOWERS DRINK IT.
BECAUSE YOU PUT SCALLIONS IN IT!
DIDN'T YOU DRINK THE SOUP? WHY AREN'T YOU UNCONSCIOUS?
EH?
I DIDN'T DRINK ANY!
YOU WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING!
STOP CHANGING THE SUBJECT!
BUT, BUT, SCAL-LIONS ARE GOOD FOR YOU!

YUP!
SHE'LL TAKE US NO MORE THAN 2 OR 3 TRICKS!
OH, YEAH?
CAN'T LET HER EXPOSE US.
IF YOU HAD FALLEN ASLEEP LIKE YOU WERE SUP-POSED TO ...
YOU STUPID GIRL!
I'M NOT ALONE.
ガラッ!!


LET ME INTRODUCE YOU.
HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MUCH...
BUT HE LOOKS AFTER HIS SISTER.


DO YOU KNOW A RESTAU-RANT CALLED TSUDAYA


HEH... MUST BE THE WRONG ROOM AGAIN.
HIC!
.....



LONG TIME NO SEE, CHIEF

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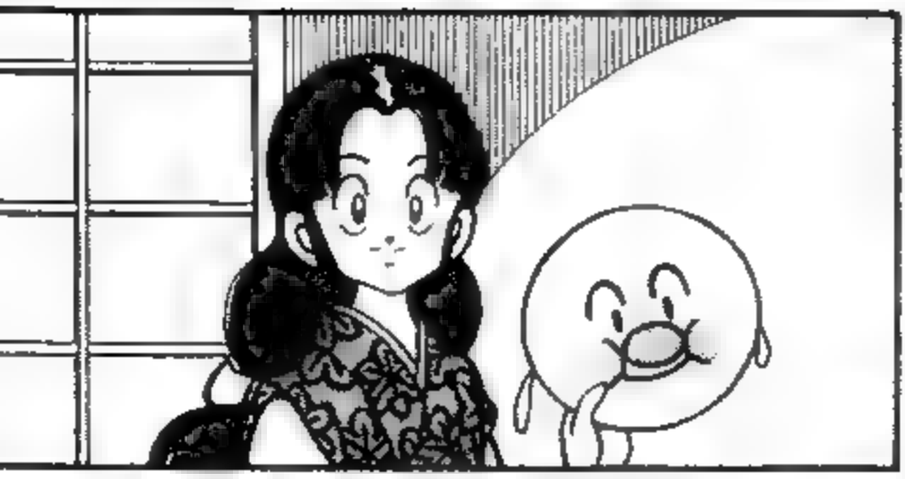
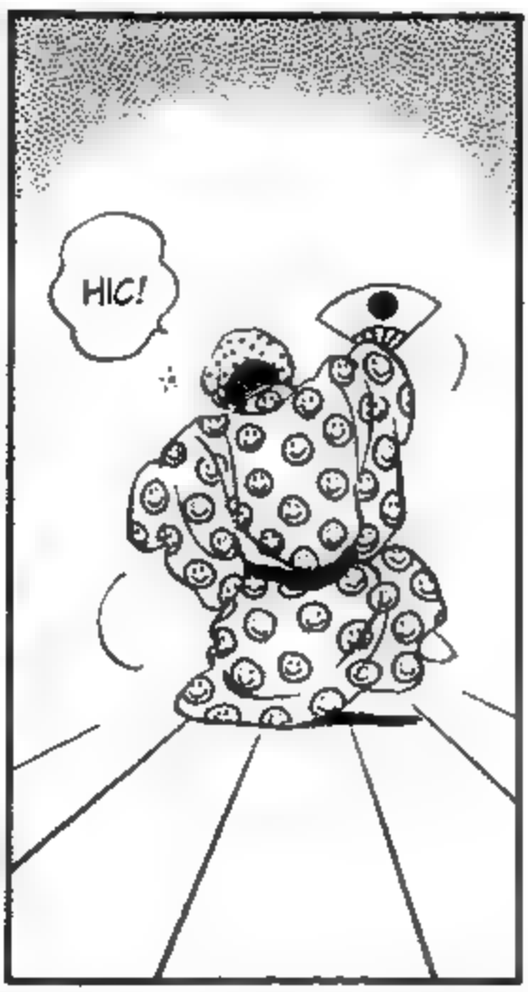
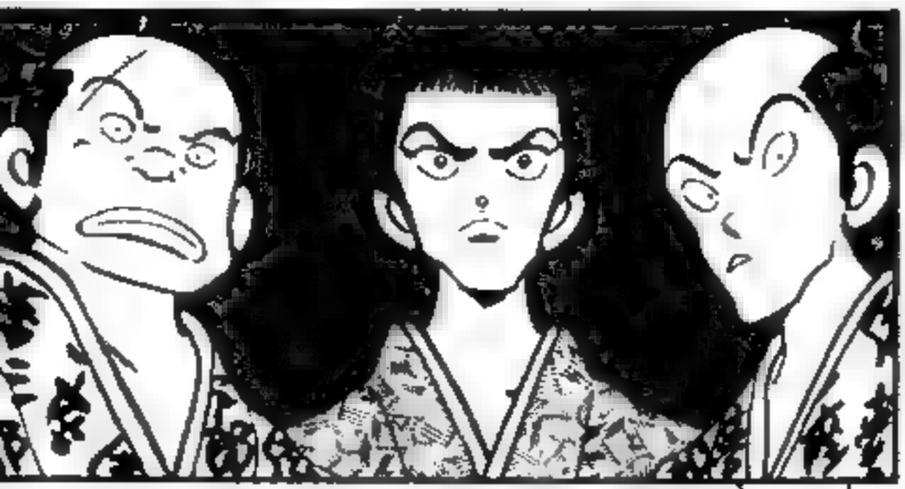



HIC!



GET BACK HERE!
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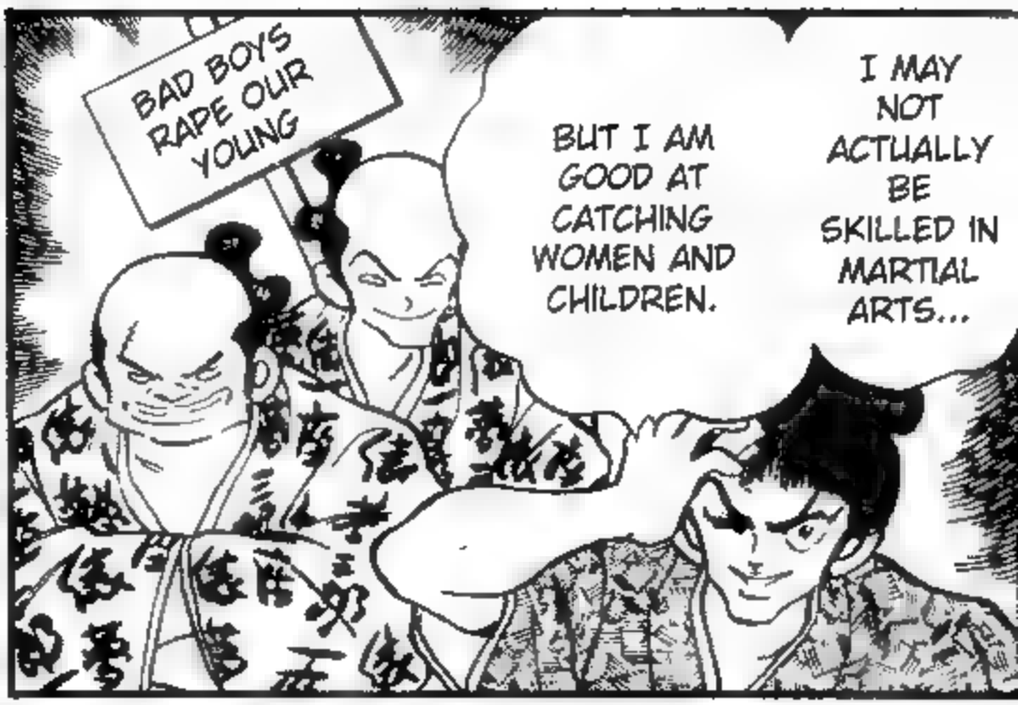
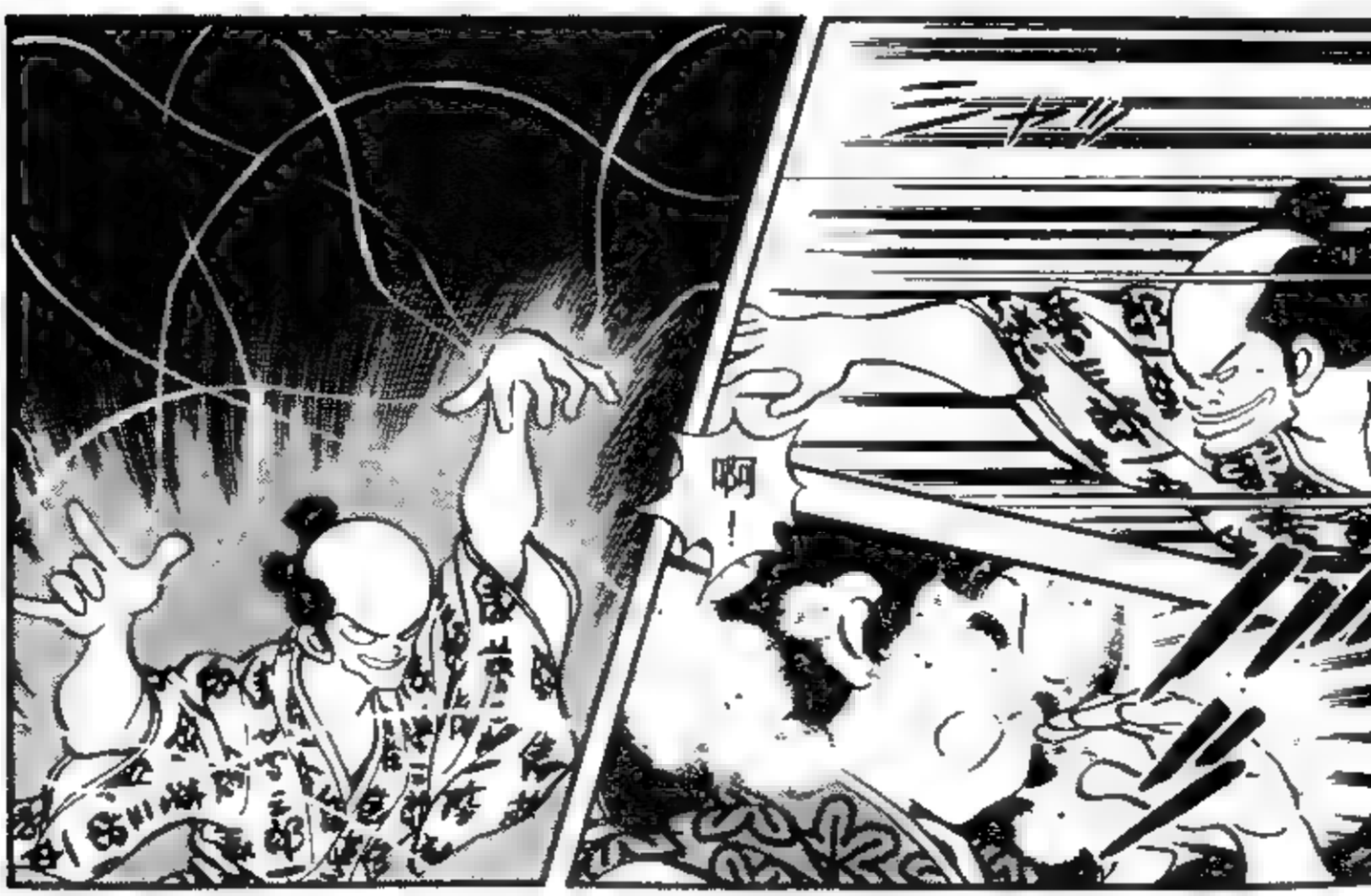
BYE!

COULD YOU BE QUIET?

YOU'RE JUST GOING TO SIT THERE AND WATCH?
HEY! CAN'T YOU SEE THESE THREE MEN ARE AFTER ME?
HEH...
WON'T TAKE A SECOND.
SORRY...
I'D LIKE TO SEE IT.
YOW!
I'LL PAY FOR YOUR FOOD...
HEH... THIS GUY'S ALL RIGHT!
DON'T EVEN THINK OF TOUCHING ME!
YOU PSYCHO-PATH!

I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY!


BAD BOYS RAPE OUR YOUNG
BUT I AM GOOD AT CATCHING WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
I MAY NOT ACTUALLY BE SKILLED IN MARTIAL ARTS...

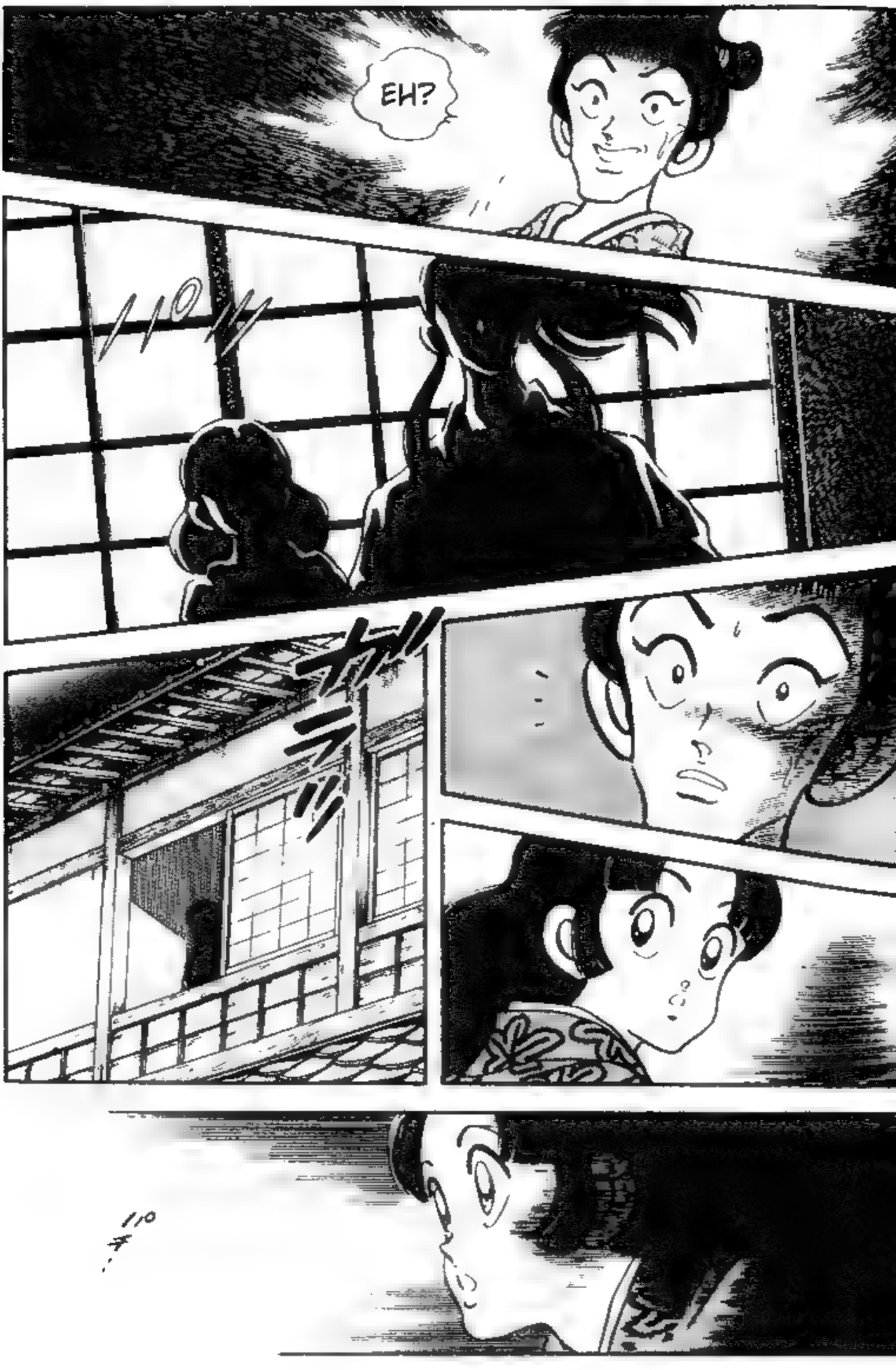

啊！

咬！
咬！

HEH...
WHATEVER YOU SAY...
ANY-THING ELSE?
WELL?
CHEATER!
OOH, JUST AS I THOUGHT. BEAUTIFUL, SILKY SKIN.
AND HERE ARE THREE CUTE LITTLE MOLES!
HEE!
LET ME GO!
HEH...

HEH!
OUCH!

LET HER GO.
I'VE CHANGED MY MIND.
WHAT...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHAT?


EH?
110
110

MY GRAND-SON'S IN THERE!
HELP!
110 110
NOT JUST ANYBODY COULD DO IT.
IT'D BE SUICIDE TO ENTER THAT INFERNO NOW.
HOW?
DON'T WORRY THERE'S AN EXPERT HERE!
WOW!
IT'S YUMESA-BUROU TAWARA!
OH!
KINJI THE FIRE-FIGHTER!
HUH?

YUMES-ABURO IS A MAN AMONG MEN!
YOU'RE A NATIONAL HERO!
ALL RIGHT! YUMESA-BUROU!
JUST ACTING...
NO... THAT'S...
COME ON, LET'S SEE YOUR ACTING!
YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY AT SUCH A LARGE AUDIENCE.
ゴゴゴ
AND IF YOU RUN AWAY, YOU'LL BE THE LAUGH-INGSTOCK OF ALL EDO.

DO YOU BEST!
YUMESA-BUROU!
YOU'LL BE THE NEXT FIRE CHIEF!
YOW!

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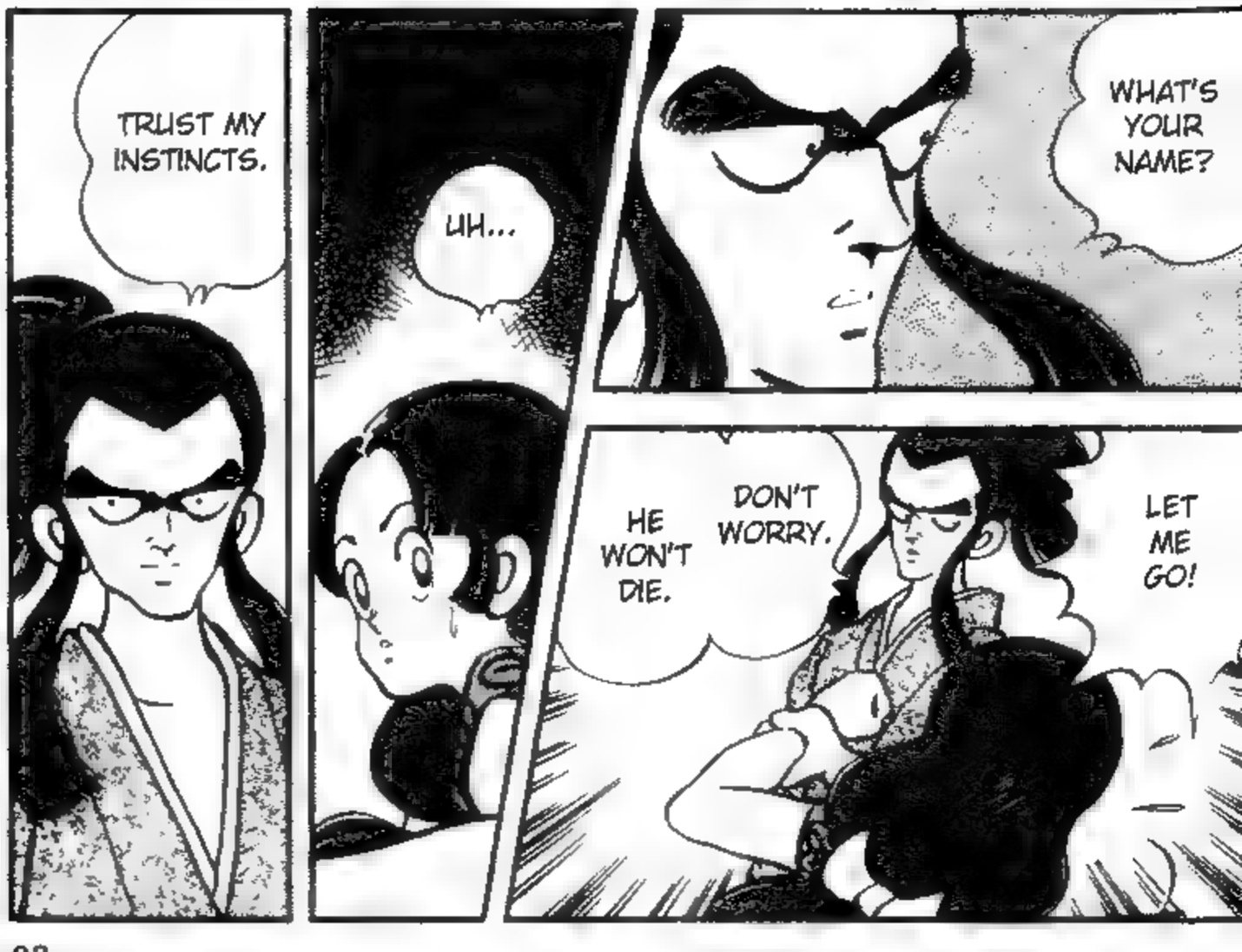
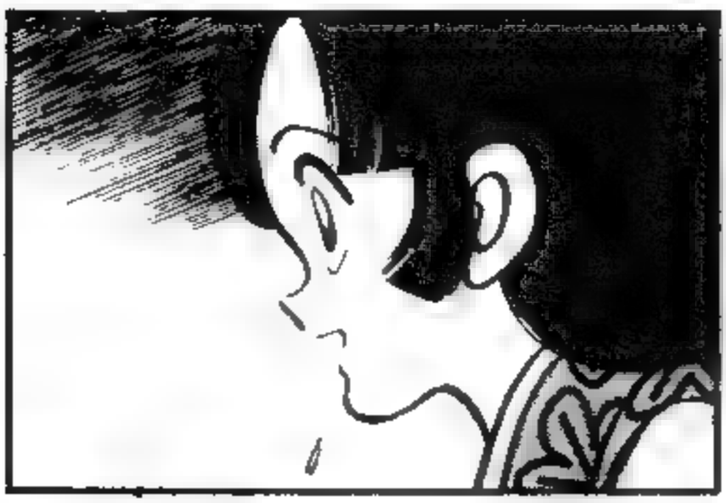
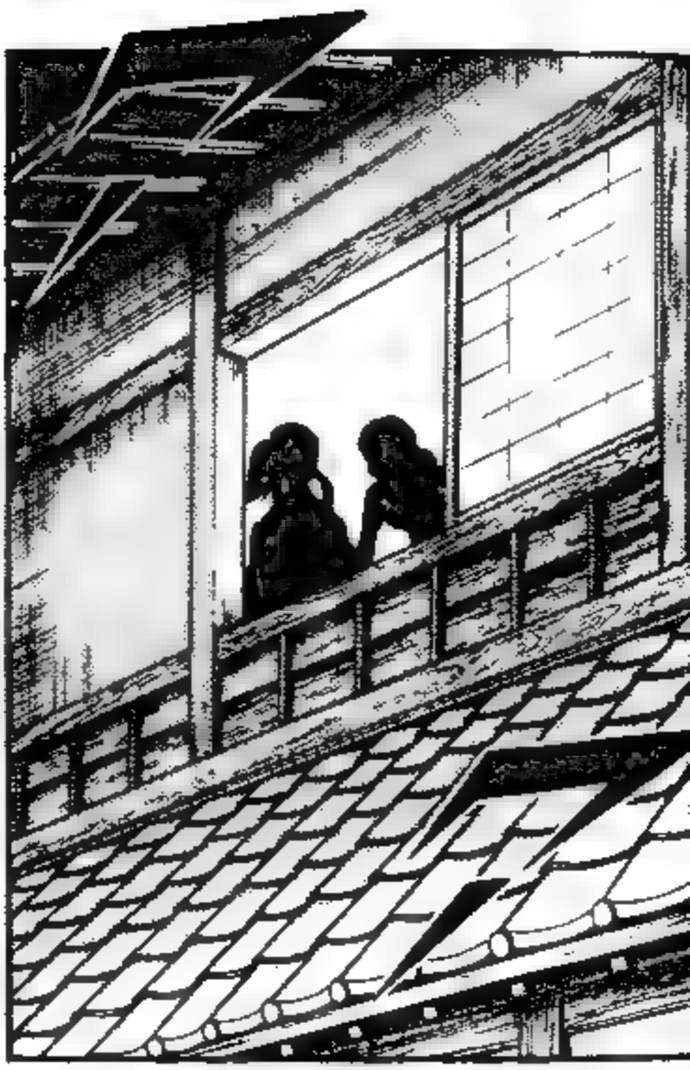
ドオーン

SHICHIMI...
ONIISAN?
SHICHIMI-ONIISAN!!!
WAIT.


TRUST MY INSTINCTS.
UH...
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
HE WON'T DIE.
DON'T WORRY.
LET ME GO!

SHIN-
TAROU!

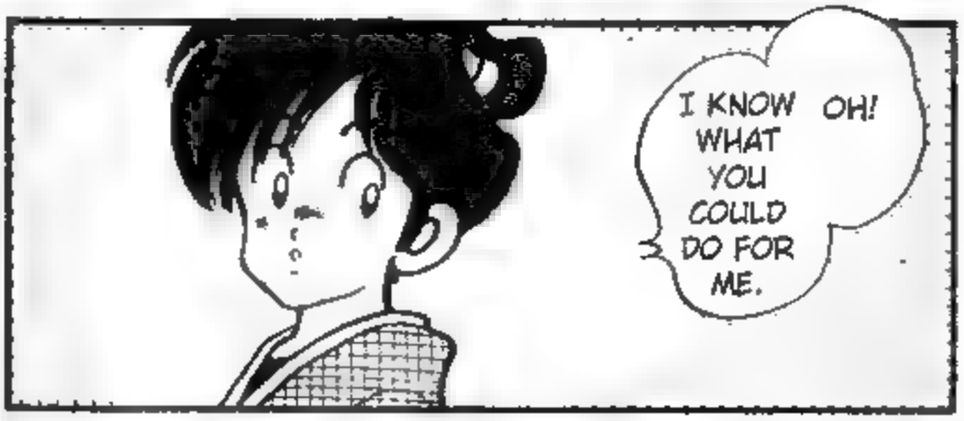




ARE YOU REALLY BROTHER AND SISTER?

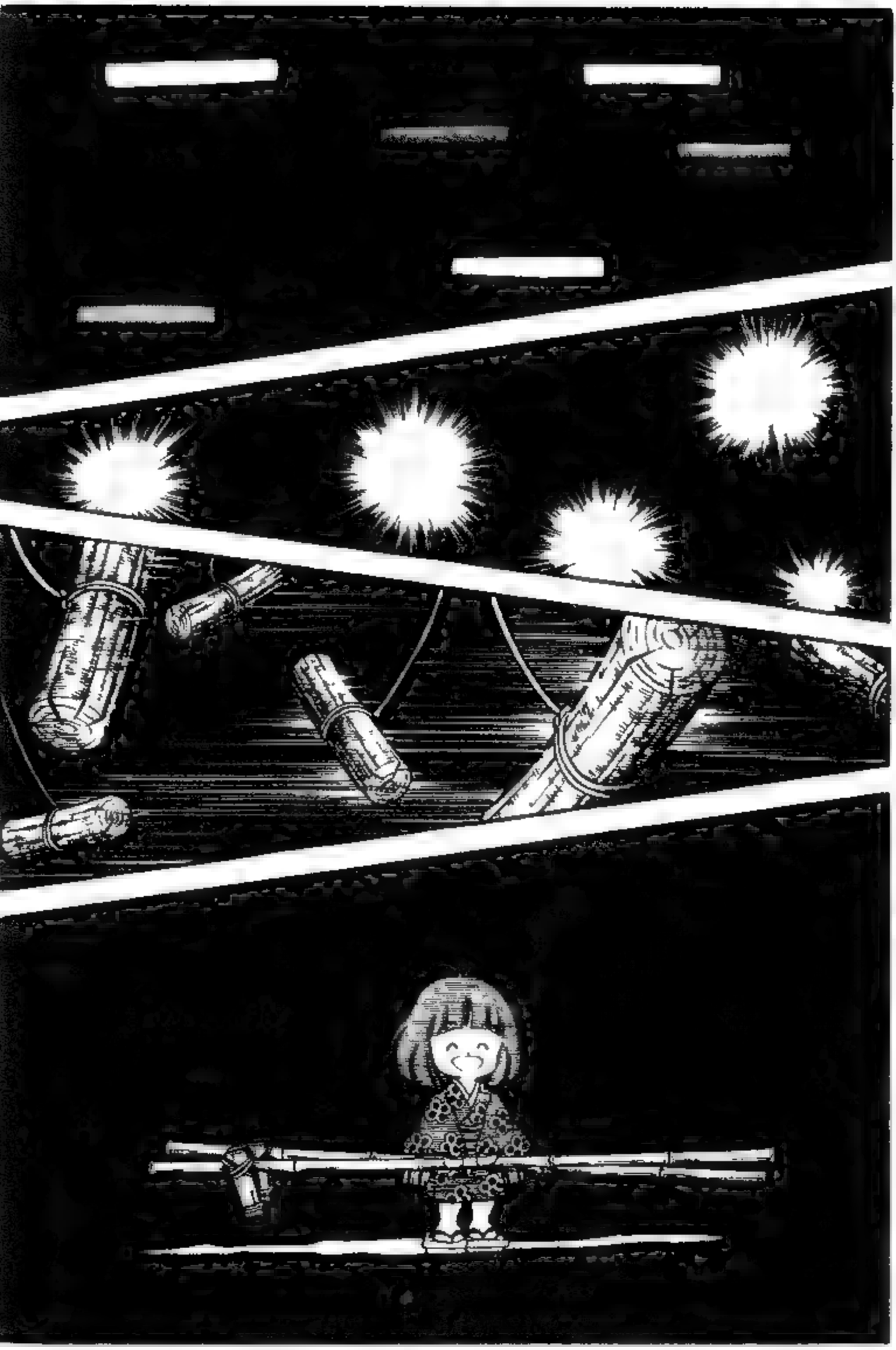
NOW MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
OF COURSE!

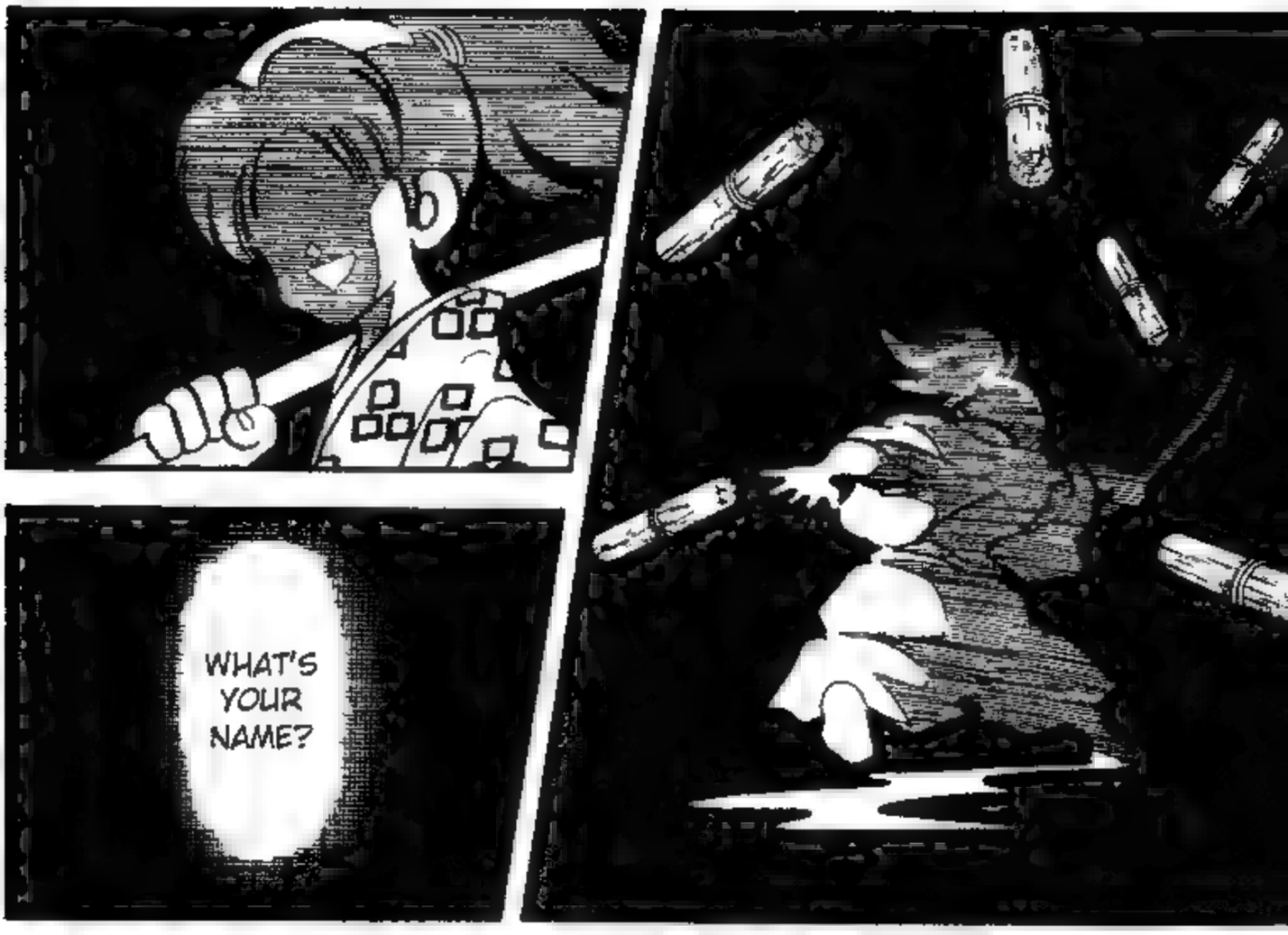
IT WAS NOTHING.
I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

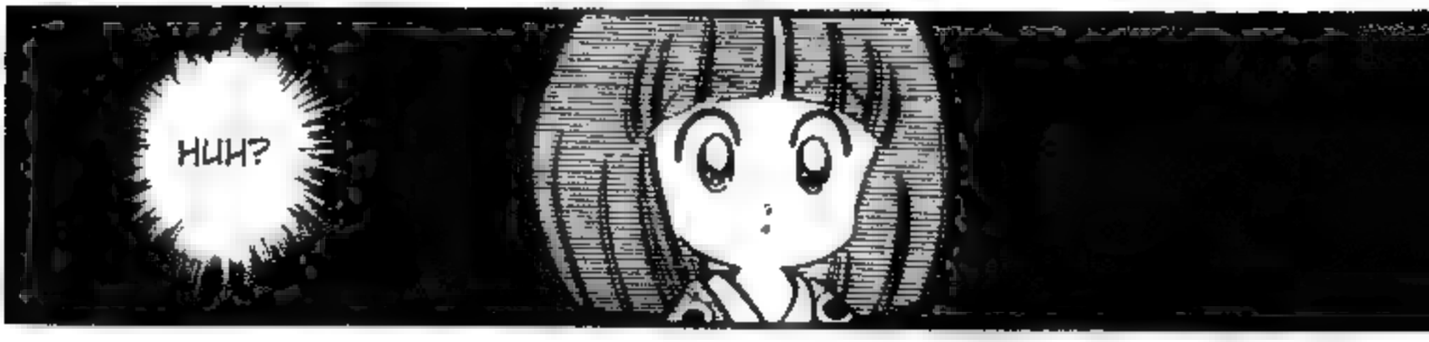

I KNOW WHAT YOU COULD DO FOR ME.
OH!

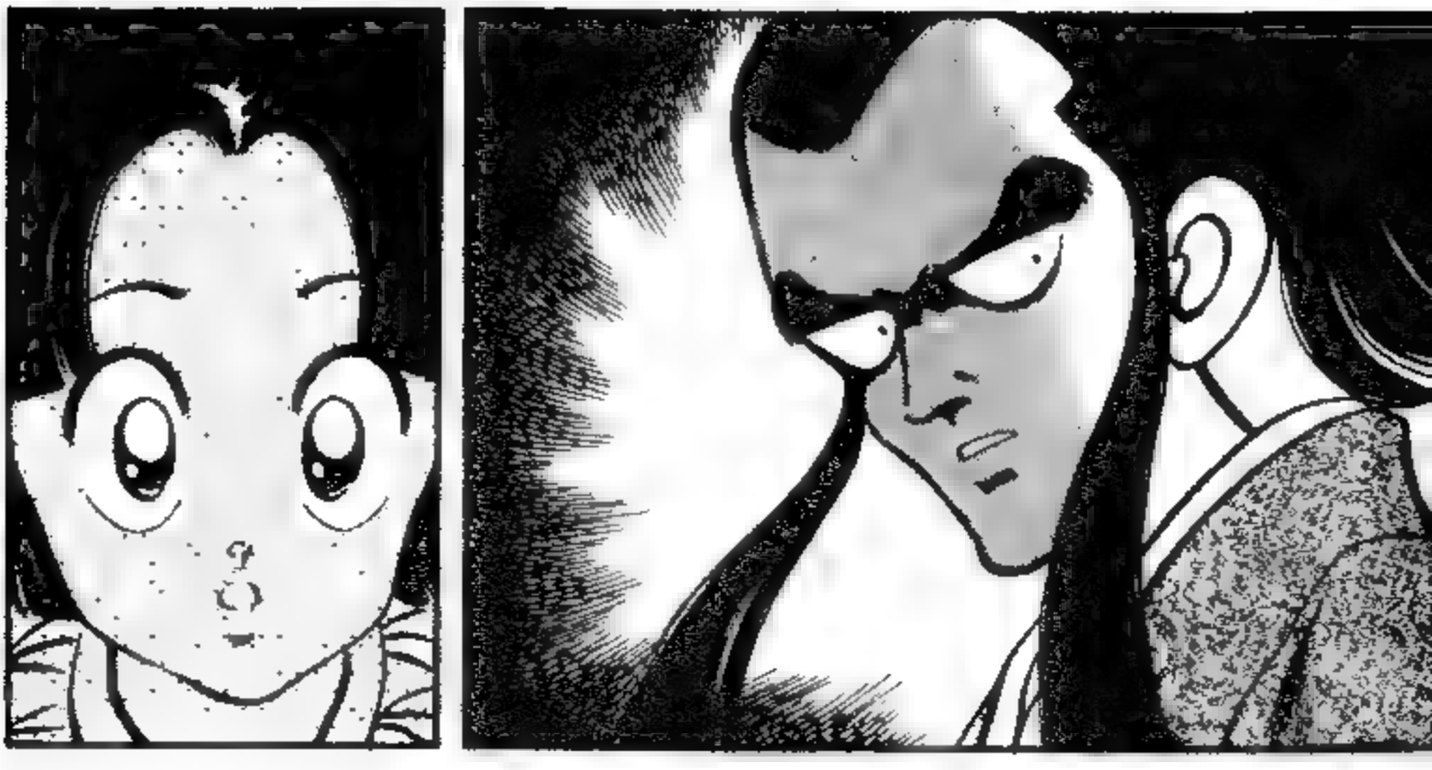
IS THERE A HOTEL NAMED TSUDAYA AROUND HERE?

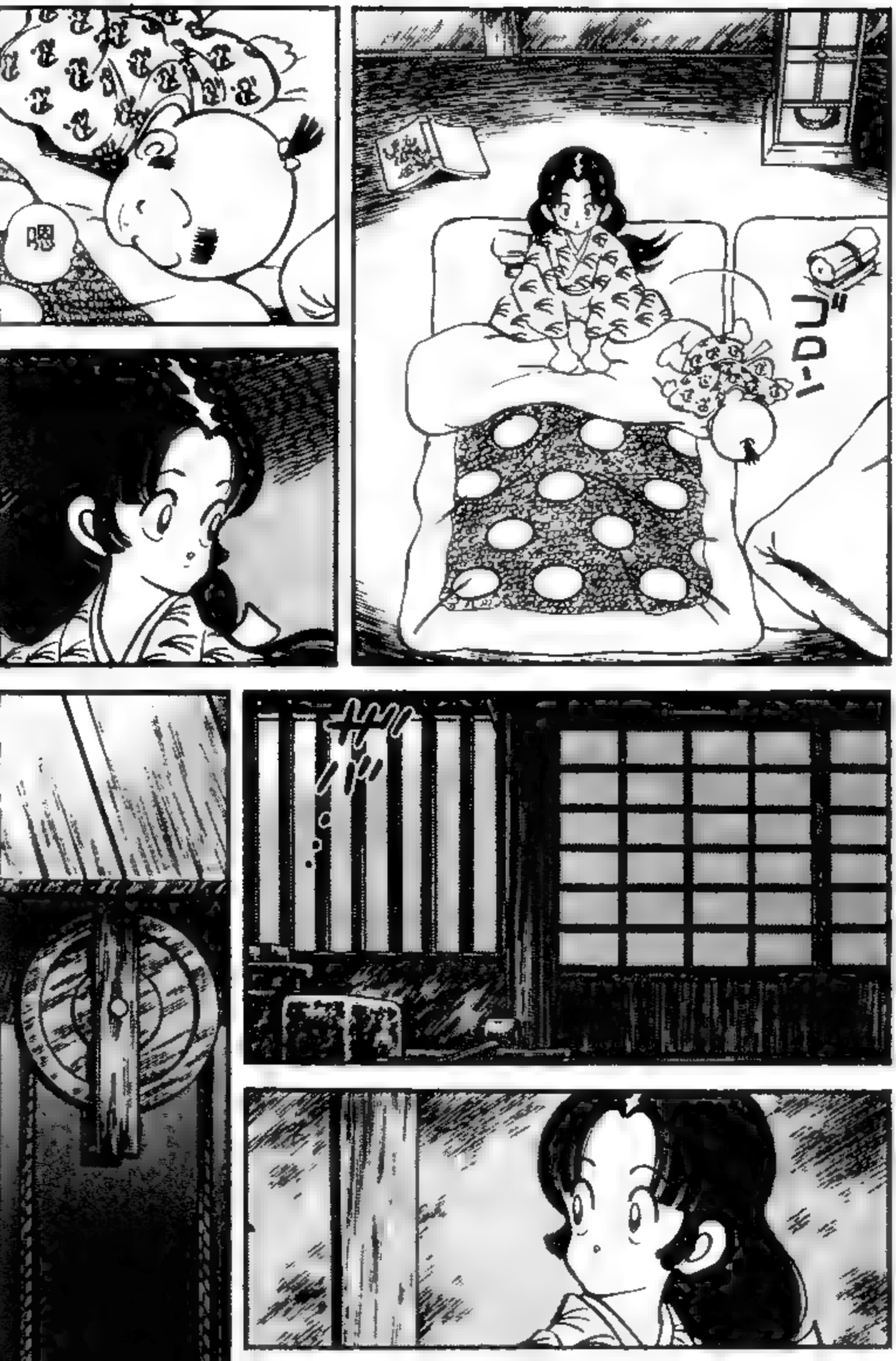
LET YOUR LOVED
ONES TRAVEL




WHAT'S YOUR NAME?


HUH?

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OW!

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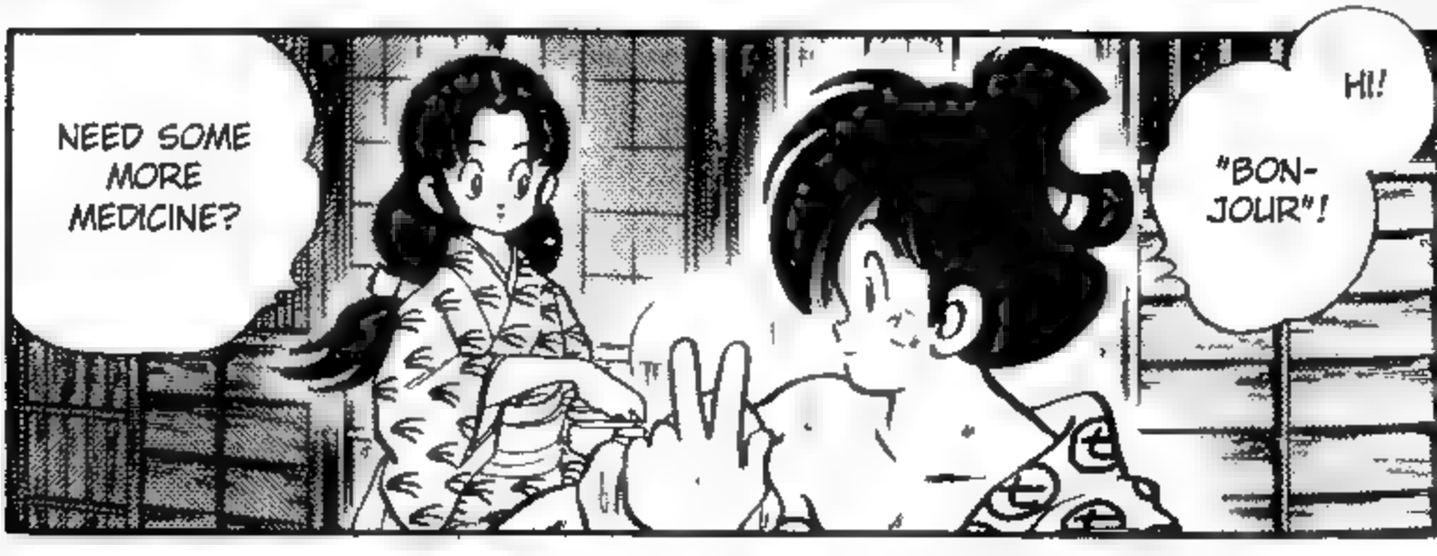
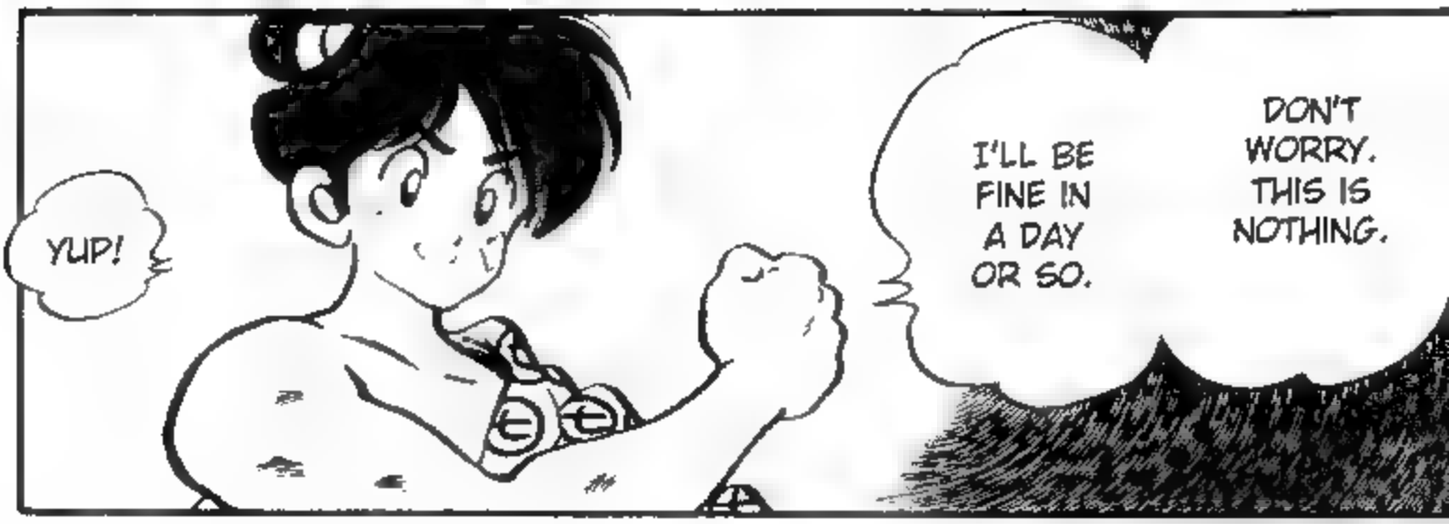
STILL HURT?


NEED SOME MORE MEDICINE?
HI!
"BON-JOUR"!


YUP!
I'LL BE FINE IN A DAY OR SO.
DON'T WORRY. THIS IS NOTHING.

ペーン
A SCAR IS THE MEDAL OF A TRUE MAN.
NO. YOU'LL SCAR!
OUCH!
I JUST WANTED TO SEE IF THE RUMORS ABOUT YUMESABUROU WERE TRUE.
SILLY!
NONE OF YOUR BUSI-NESS.
YOU WHOLE BODY IS COVERED WITH BURNS!
I'M NOT GOING TO LISTEN TO GIRLS WHO RUN AWAY WITH GUYS BASED PURELY ON APPEARANCES.
SO WHAT?

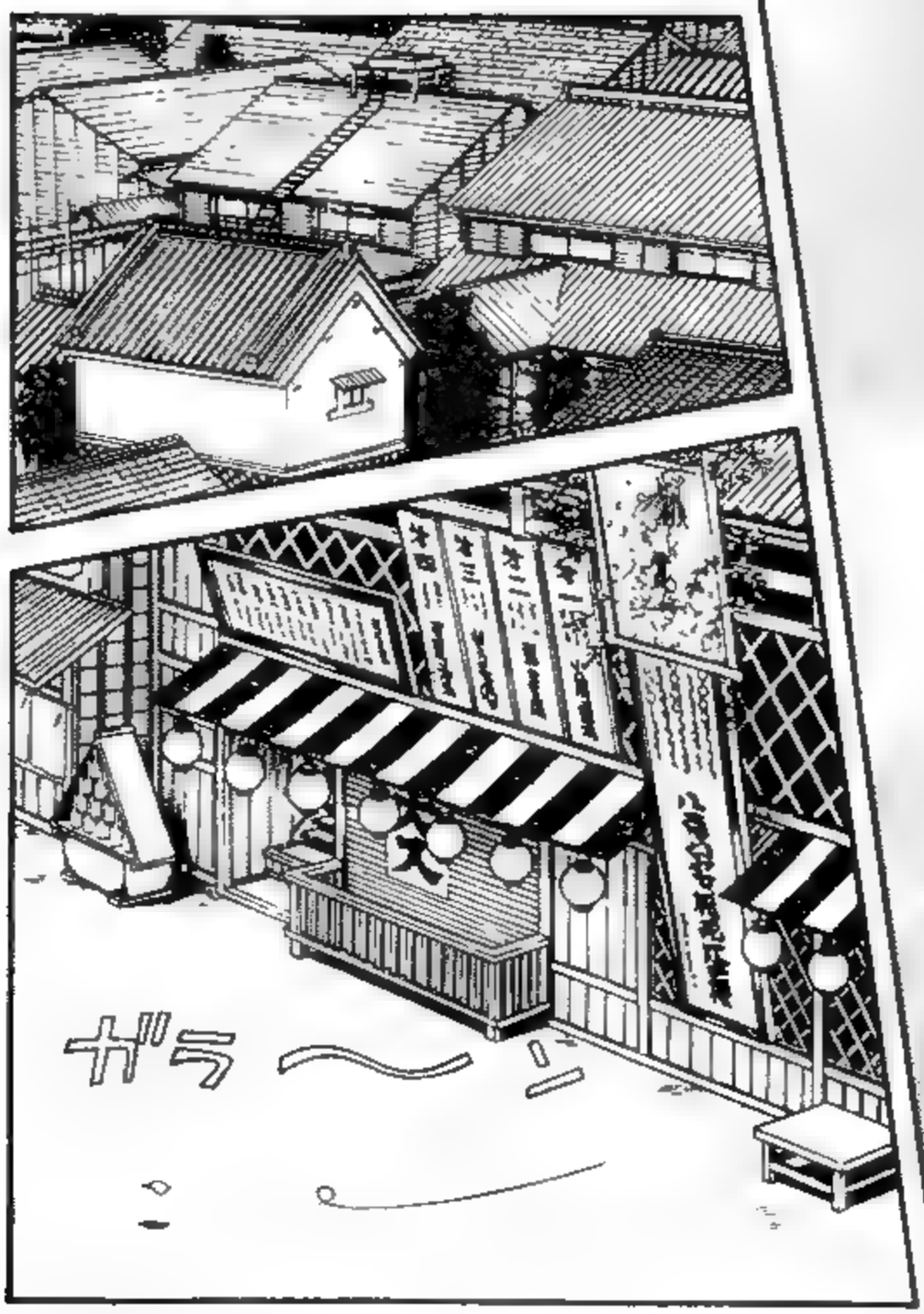
YOU'RE SUCH A DEPEND-ABLE BROTHER.
THAT I'D HAVE A BROTHER WHO WOULD FOLLOW ME EVEN WHEN I TOLD HIM NOT TO.
THEN I'D RELY ON THE FACT...

YOU WERE A GIRL ALL ALONE BY HERSELF! WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENED?
DIDN'T YOU STICK OUT YOUR HEAD A BIT TOO FAR FOR THAT?

I JUST COULDN'T FIND THE WAY HOME.
HA!

RONIN?
IF NOT FOR THAT STRANGE RONIN...
BUT IT WAS REALLY DAN-GEROUS BACK THERE...

I THINK HE KNOWS YOU, HE ASKED ME ABOUT YOU.
OH!
YEAH.
HIS SWORD-PLAY WAS PHENOMI-NAL.
STRANGE RONIN...
PHENOMINAL SWORDPLAY?
I ONLY KNOW...
...ONE PERSON FITTING THAT DES-CRIPTION.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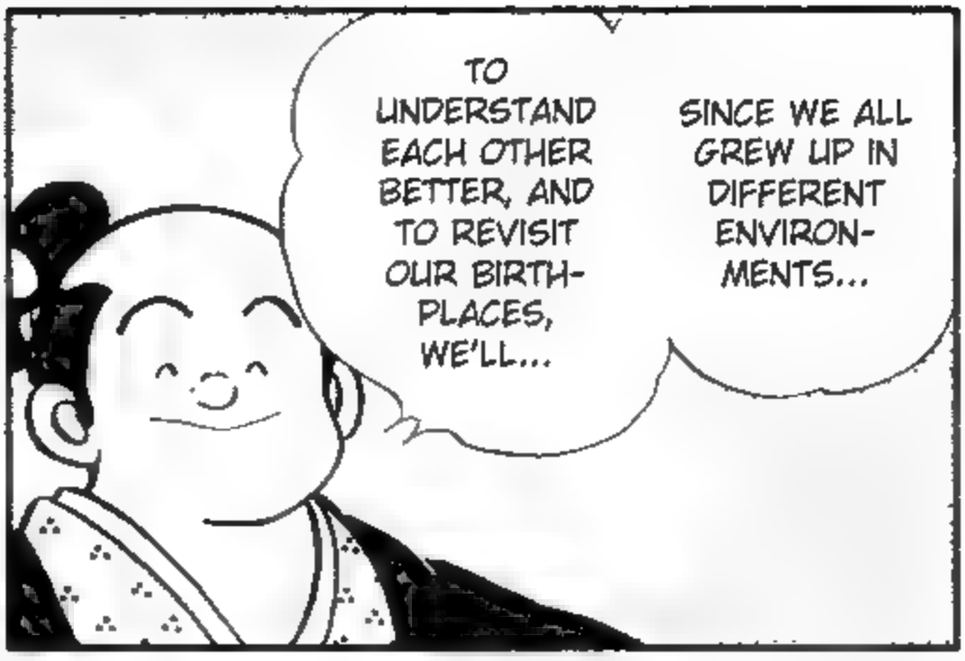
カンコォ
助六中村

WHAT'S UP WITH YUMESABUROU TAWARA?
THE STORY OF HIS SHAME AT THE INFERNO SPREAD AROUND EDO LIKE WILDFIRE. NO ONE WANTS TO WATCH HIS PLAYS NOW.
SIGH ...
DANGEROUS PROFESSIONS, ACTORS AND MANGA-KA. ONCE THEY FALL, THEY FALL HARD.
YEAH.

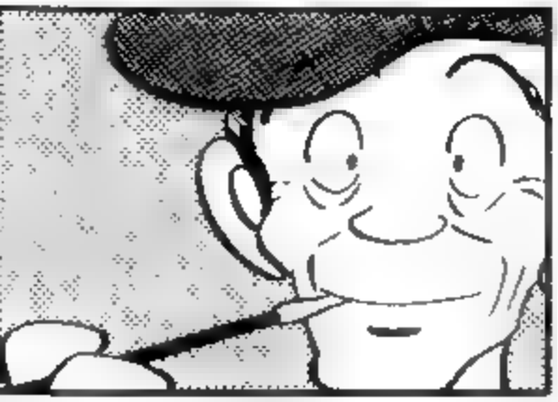
A GRAVE VISIT?
HM,
YES.
ALL OF YOU??

WE CAN FORGE SOME WONDERFUL MEMORIES.
JOUR-NEYING TO-GETHER.


TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER BETTER, AND TO REVISIT OUR BIRTH-PLACES, WE'LL...
SINCE WE ALL GREW UP IN DIFFERENT ENVIRON-MENTS...

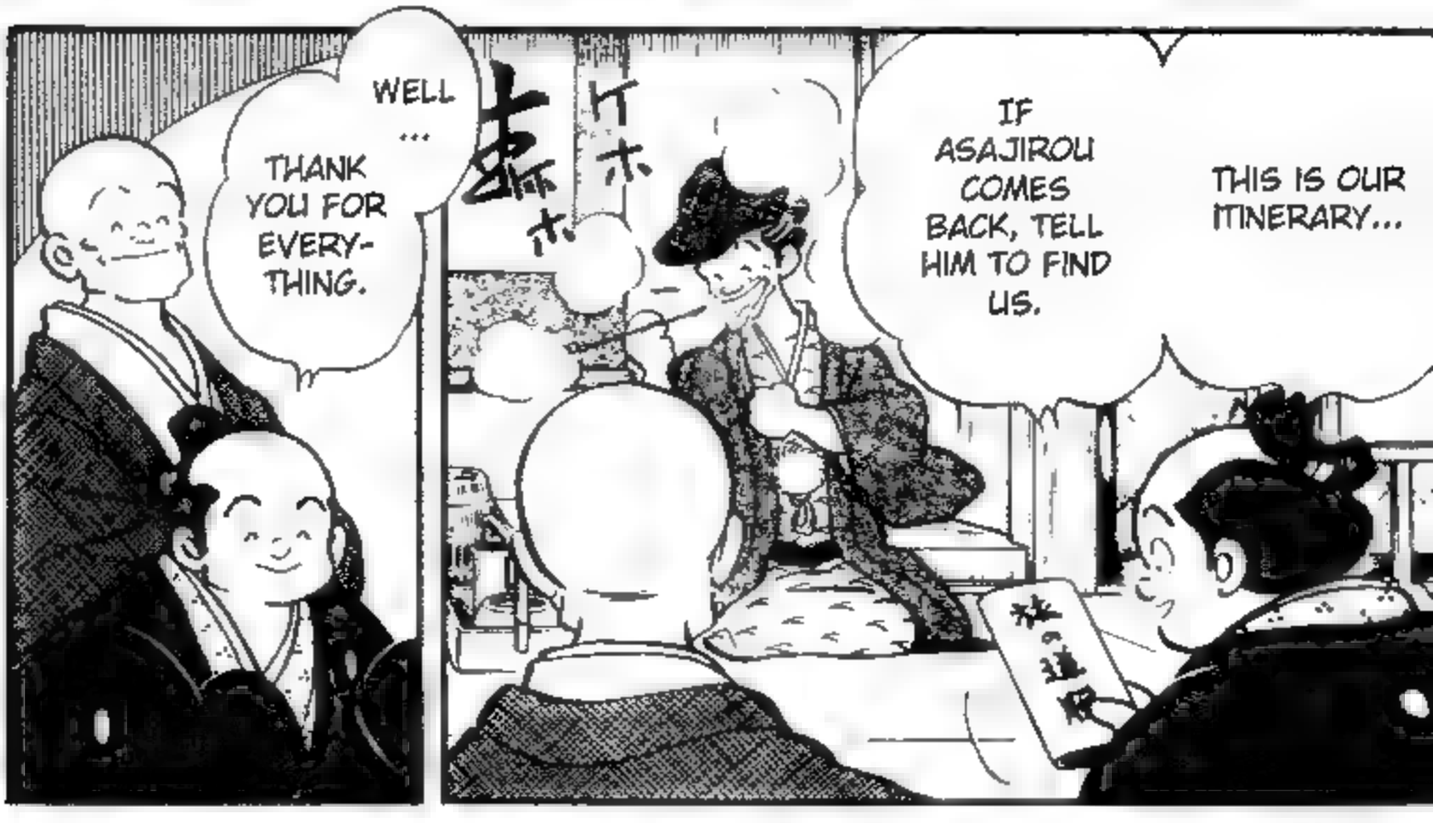
IT'LL BE A LONG JOURNEY.

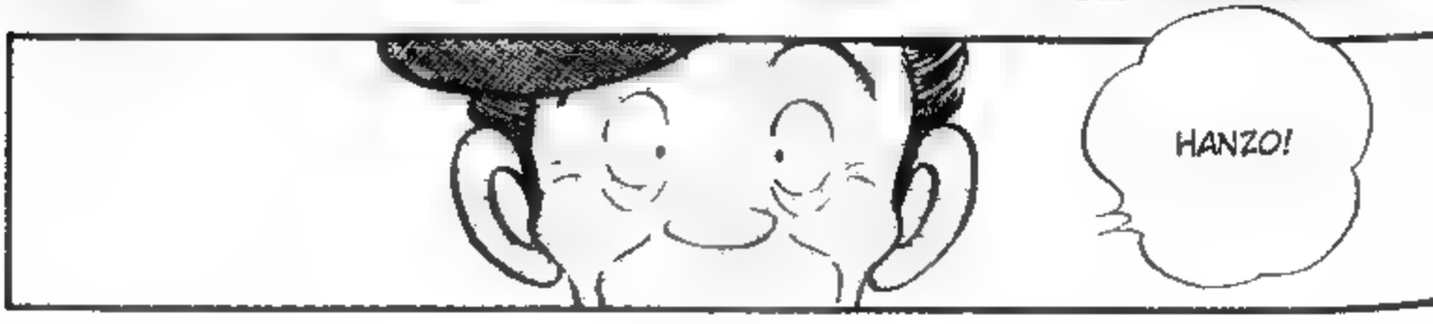
...RETRACE THE STEPS OF OUR FATHER.
IN OTHER WORDS ...



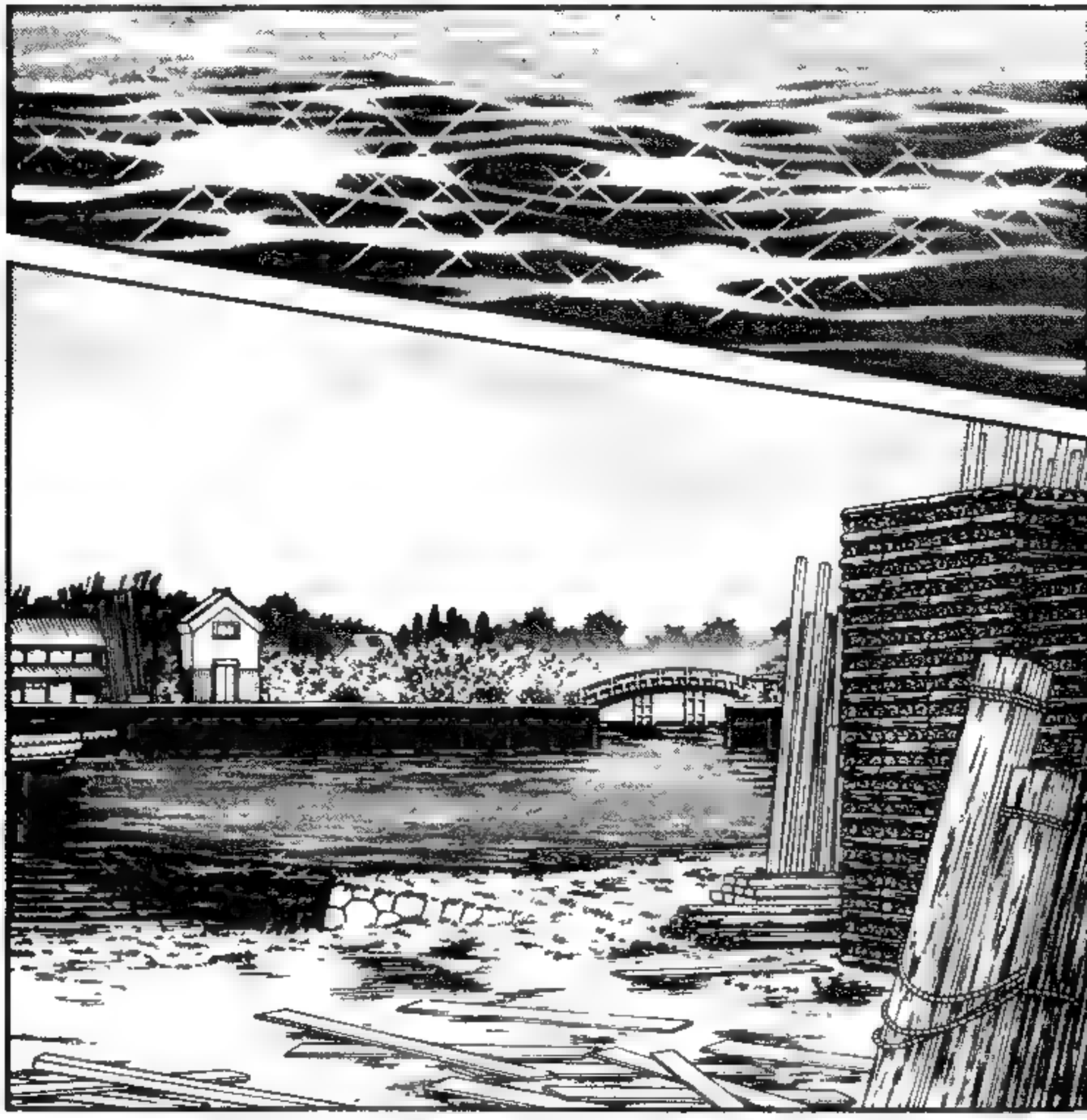
VISIT YOUR BIRTH-PLACES?
YES.

HACK HACK!


WELL ...
THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING.
IF ASAJIROU COMES BACK, TELL HIM TO FIND US.
THIS IS OUR ITINERARY...


HANZO!

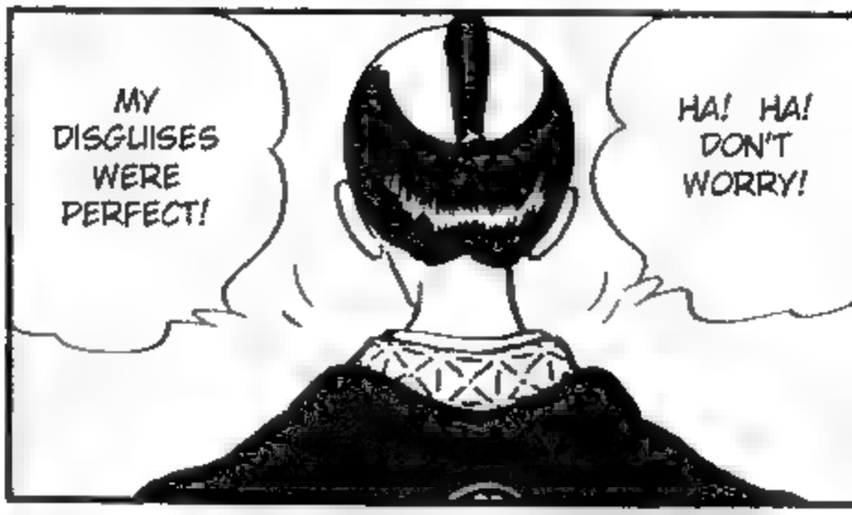
HEH!
HANZO!!
HERE!

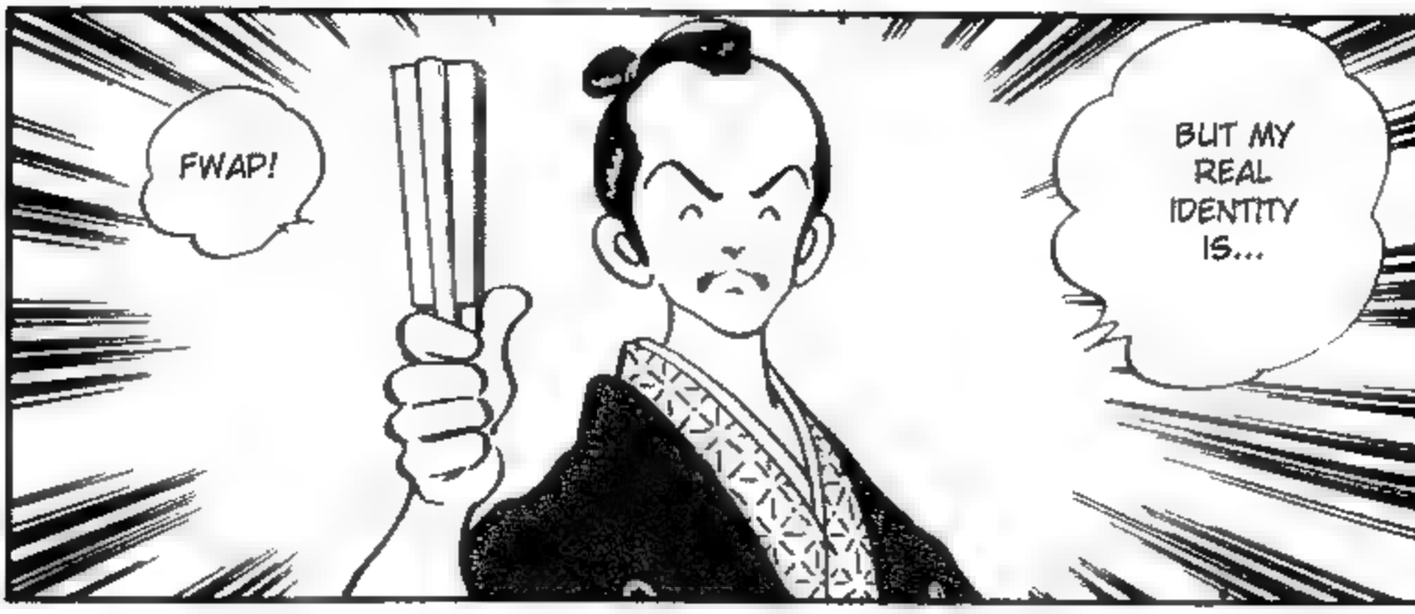


GRAVE VISIT?
OOH!
THEIR MOTHERS WILL BE HAPPY.
LOTS OF WARM MEMORIES IN THOSE PLACES.
IF POSSIBLE, I'D LIKE TO GO TOO!

SOMETIMES A WANDERING PERFORMER...
SOMETIMES A RESERVED, TRAVELLING MONK.
AND SOMETIMES, A WEIRD MAGAZINE EDITOR!

I'M AFRAID THEIR INVESTIGATIONS MAY UNCOVER THINGS ABOUT YOU, SIR.
THAT'S WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT.

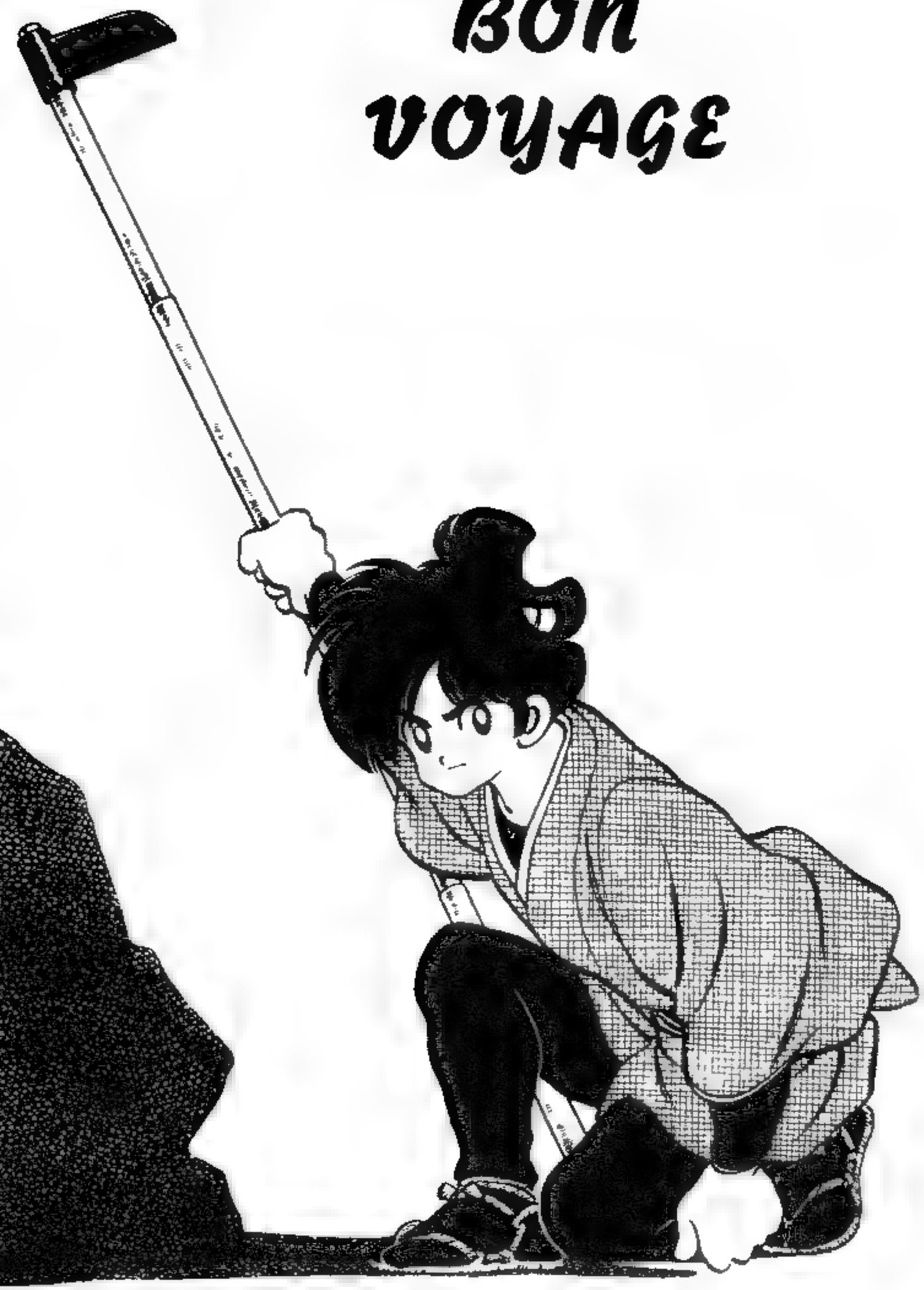

MY DISGUISES WERE PERFECT!
HA! HA! DON'T WORRY!

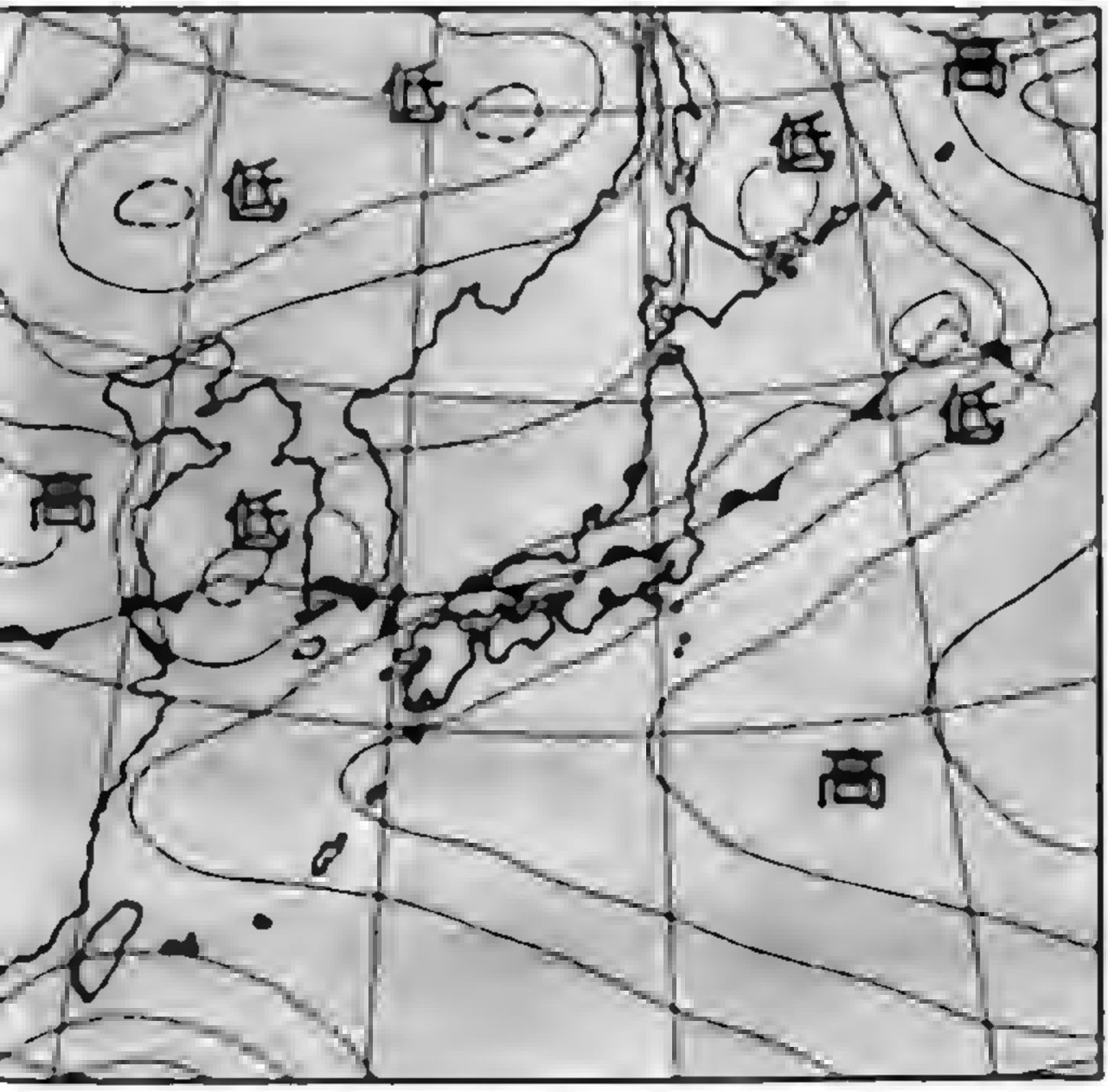

FWAP!
BUT MY REAL IDENTITY IS...

HEY!
OLD MAN!

IT IMPARTS MATURITY. IT IS SAID...
LET HANZO FOLLOW THEM SECRETLY! IF SOMETHING HAPPENS...
IN ANY CASE, IN SUCH A LONG JOURNEY,
IN ANY CASE, IN SUCH A LONG JOURNEY,
IS BY NATURE DANGEROUS ...
TRAVEL
"IF YOU LOVE THEM, LET THEM TRAVEL!"
HEY! PAY ATTENTION!

BON VOYAGE

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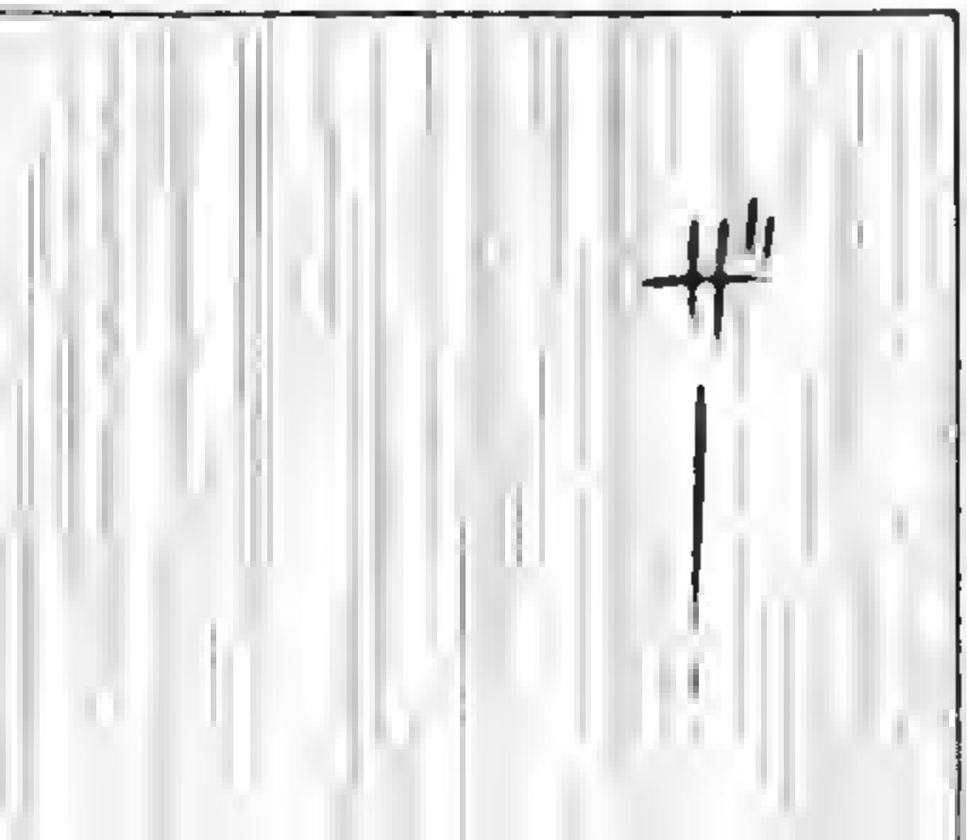
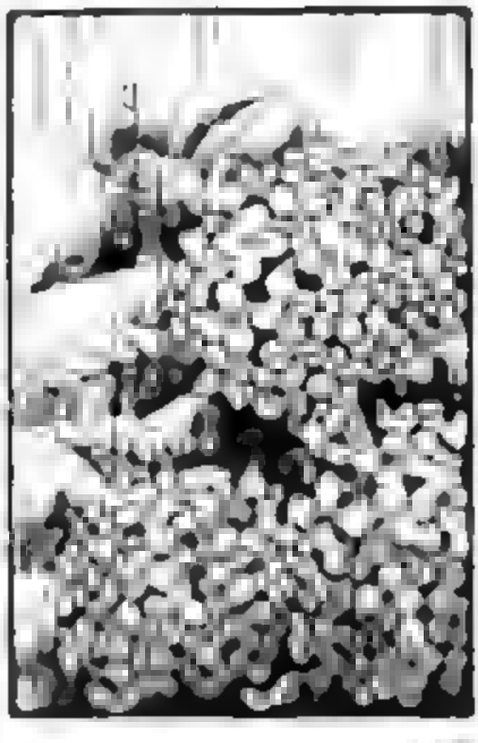
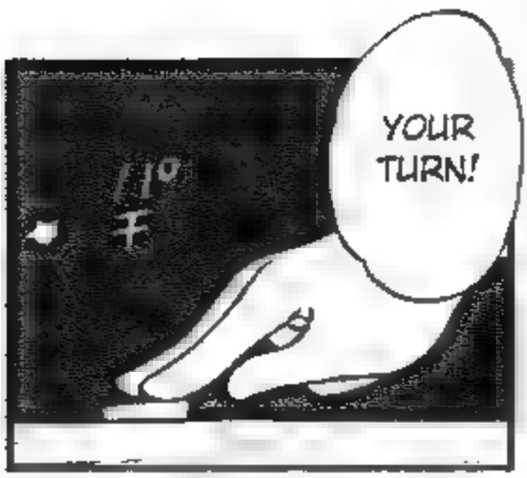
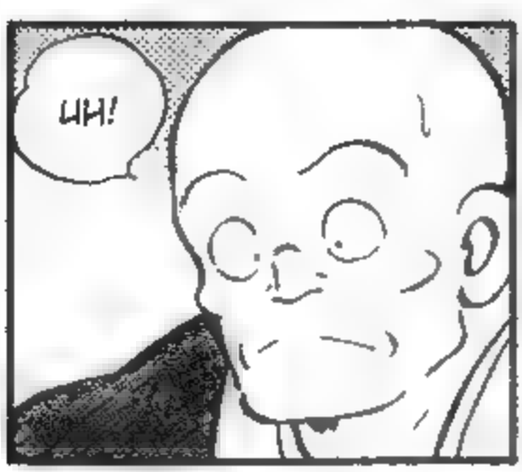





YOUR TURN!

CHECK MATE!
I THINK YOU'RE THE "STUPID OPPONENT"

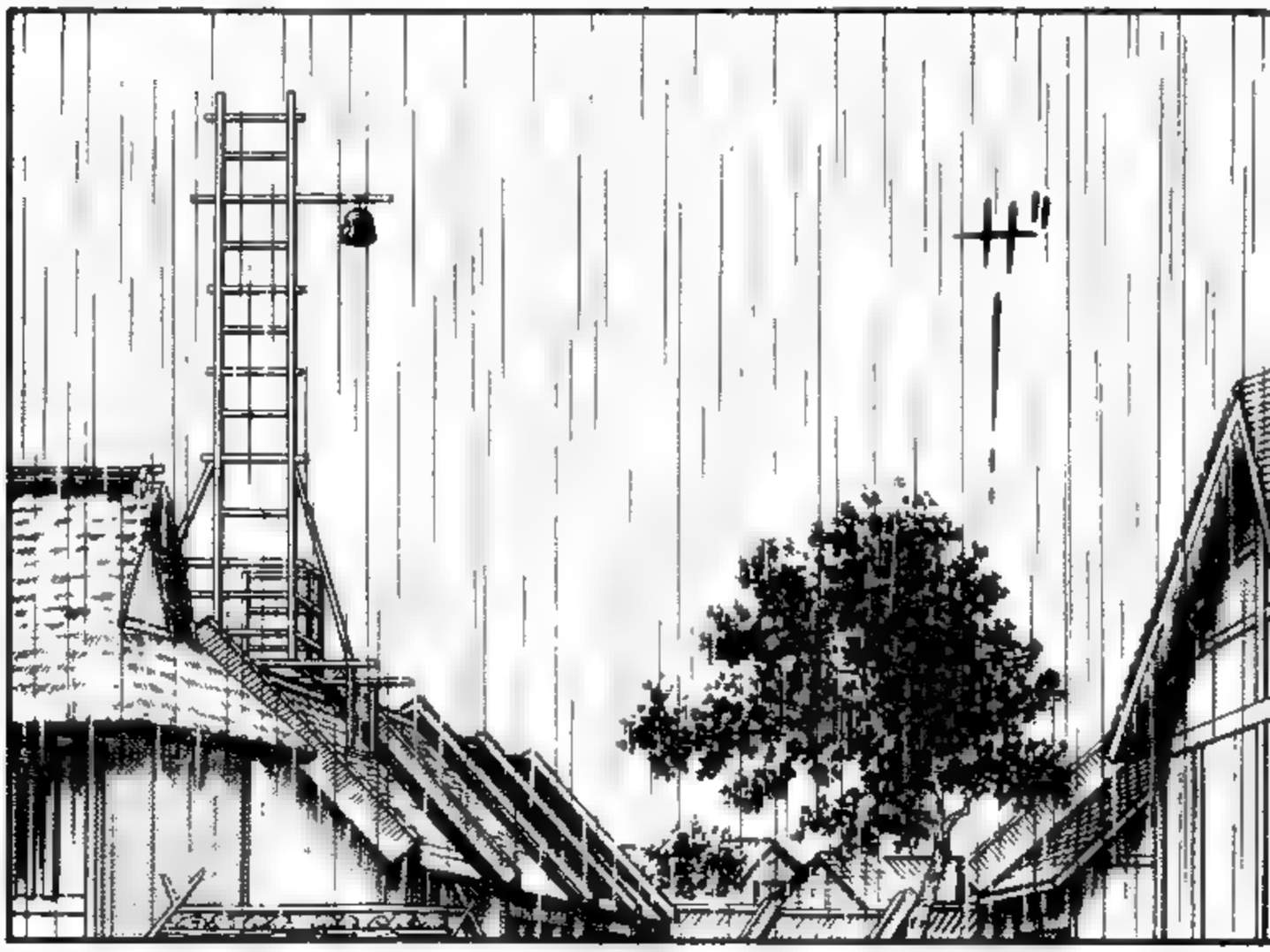

UH!

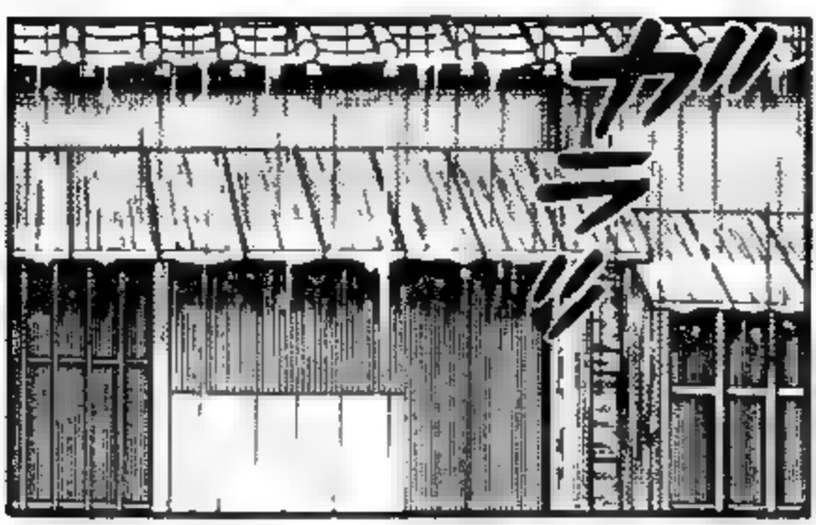
HI!

I PLANNED A TRIP, BUT I MET A TORRID RAIN... I PLANNED A GAME, BUT I MET A STUPID OPPONENT!

ガラ
ARE YOU GUYS READY?

IT'S NOT AS IF IT'S A MARRIAGE!
WHO CARES OF THE DAY'S LUCKY OR NOT?
WE'RE LEAVING!
WHAT'S THIS "HI"?
IT'S A LUCKY DAY FOR TRAVELLING!
NO!
WE'RE NOT IN A HURRY, WHY LEAVE IN THIS WEATHER?
HELLO?
YOU, SUPERSTITIOUS? I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
I'VE ALREADY DRAWN LOTS AT THE SHRINE! WE'RE LEAVING TODAY!
NO!
YEAH! TWO MORE HOURS!
THIS RAIN WILL STOP IN A COUPLE OF HOURS!

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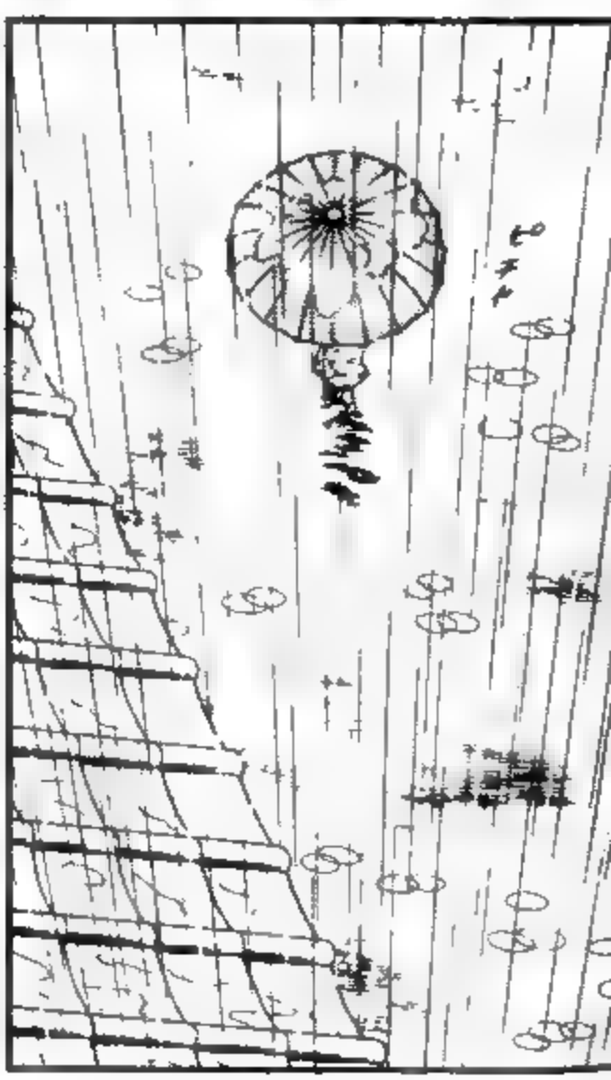
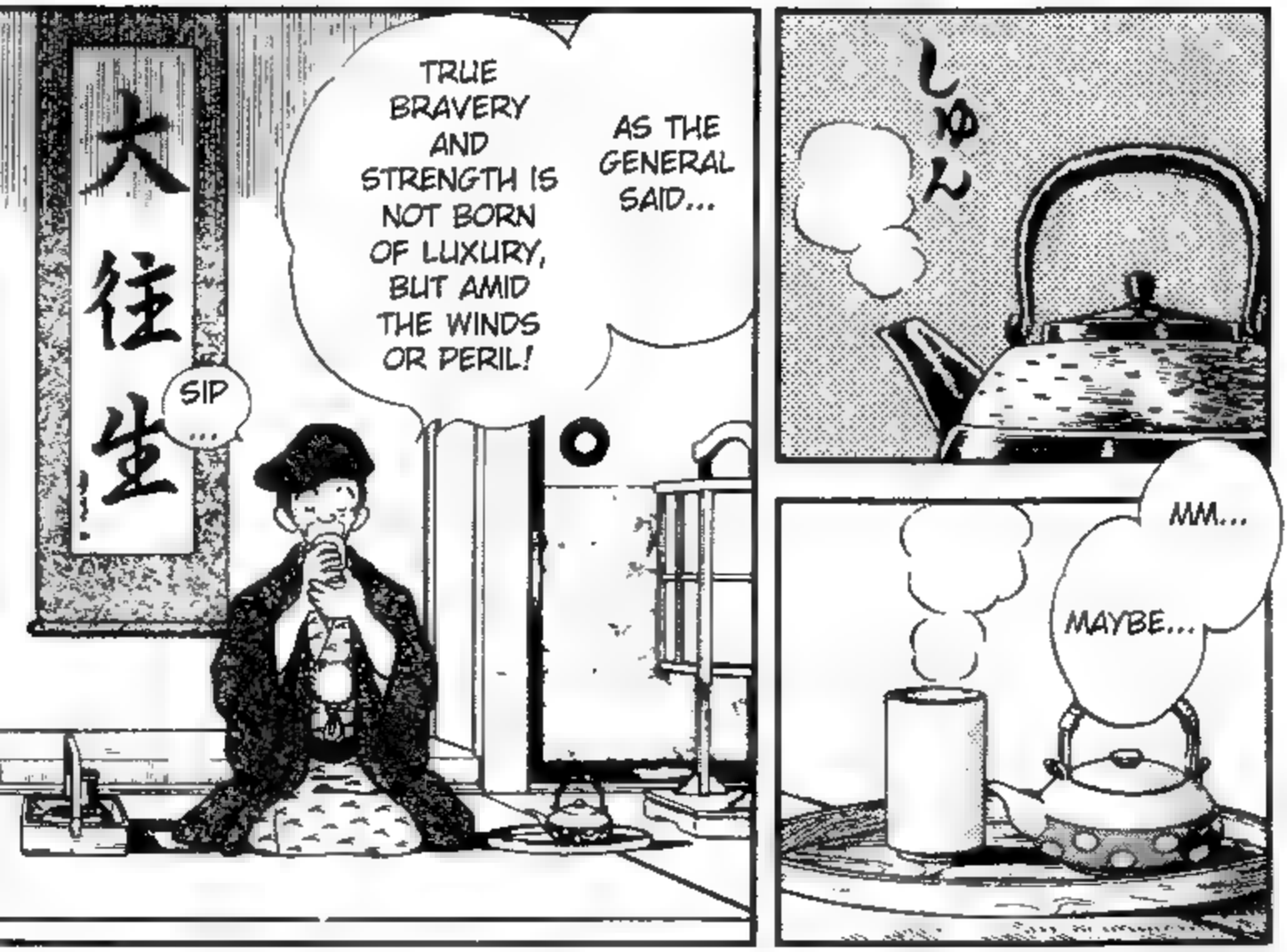
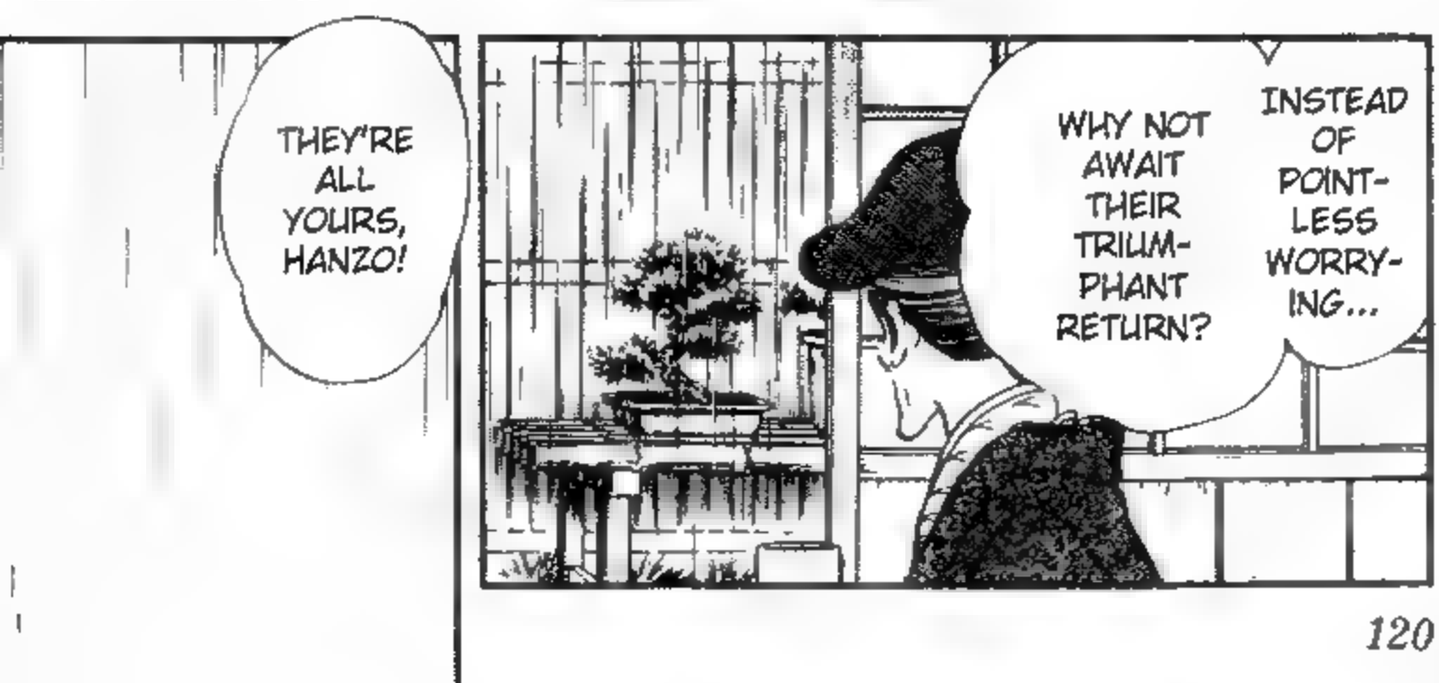



大往生
SIP ...
TRUE BRAVERY AND STRENGTH IS NOT BORN OF LUXURY, BUT AMID THE WINDS OF PERIL!
AS THE GENERAL SAID...
しゅん
MM...
MAYBE...

BUT THROUGH THOSE HARDSHIPS, THE MUTUAL COOPERATION WILL BRING THEM CLOSER TOGETHER.
THEN AGAIN, THERE'S A GAIJIN PHRASE: "TRIPS ARE TROUBLE!"


THEY'RE ALL YOURS, HANZO!
WHY NOT AWAIT THEIR TRIUM-PHANT RETURN?
INSTEAD OF POINT-LESS WORRY-ING...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YAWN
YOU CALL ME, SIR?
ぷっ
THEY'VE LEFT ALREADY!
HUH?
THEY'D CATCH A COLD IF THEY WENT OUT...
STOP KID-DING.
IT'S STILL RAINING LIKE MAD, THOUGH.
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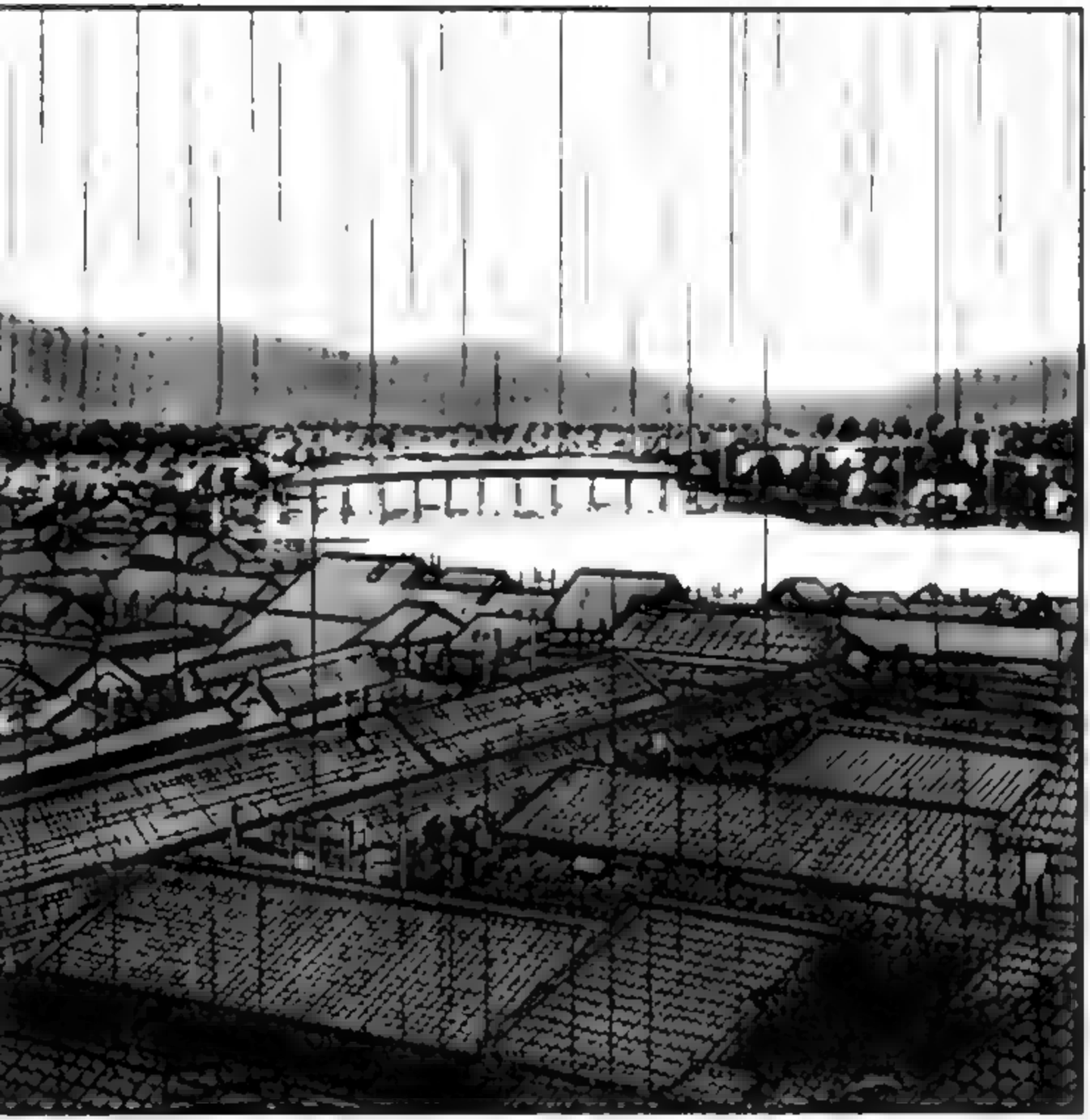
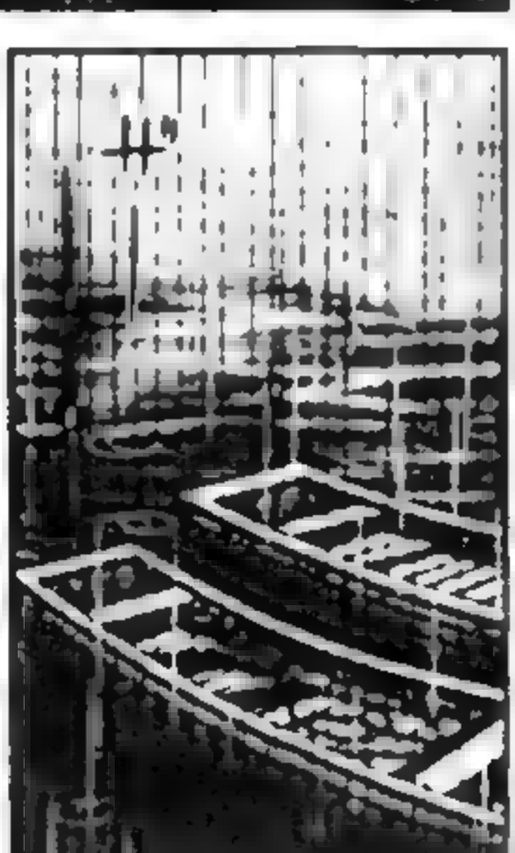
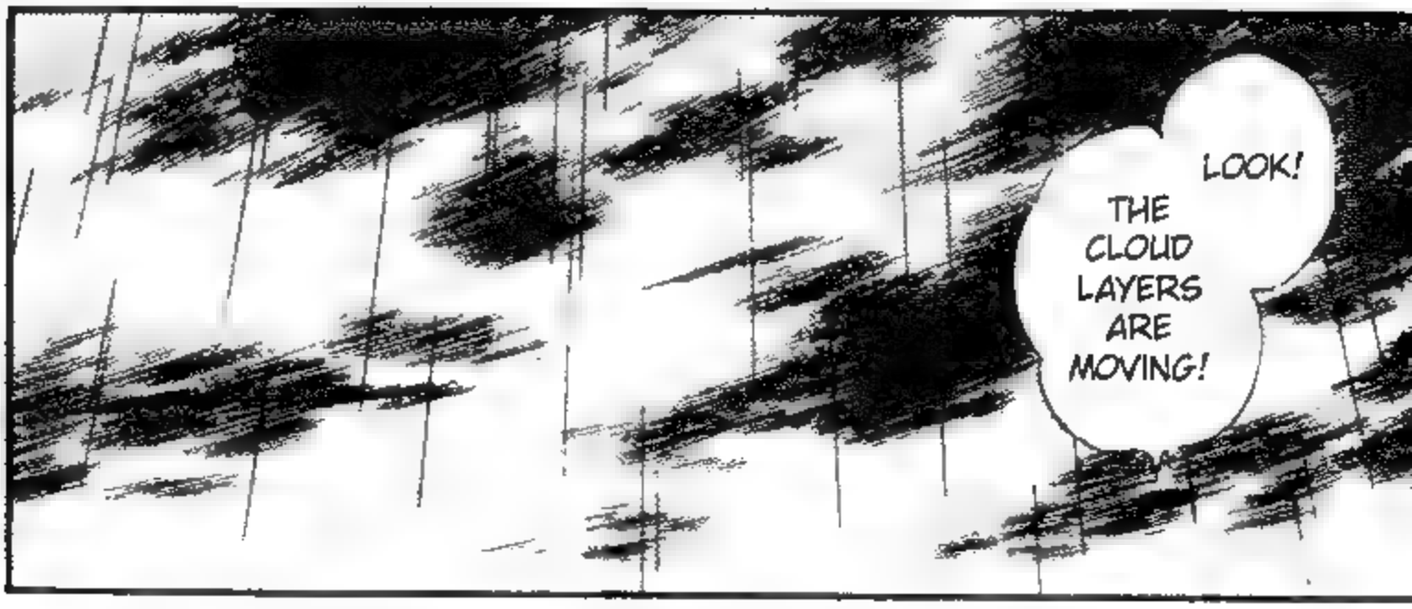


YOU'RE SO STUB-BORN!




LOOK!
THE CLOUD LAYERS ARE MOVING!

BY THEN, WE'LL BE SO WET IT WON'T MATTER!
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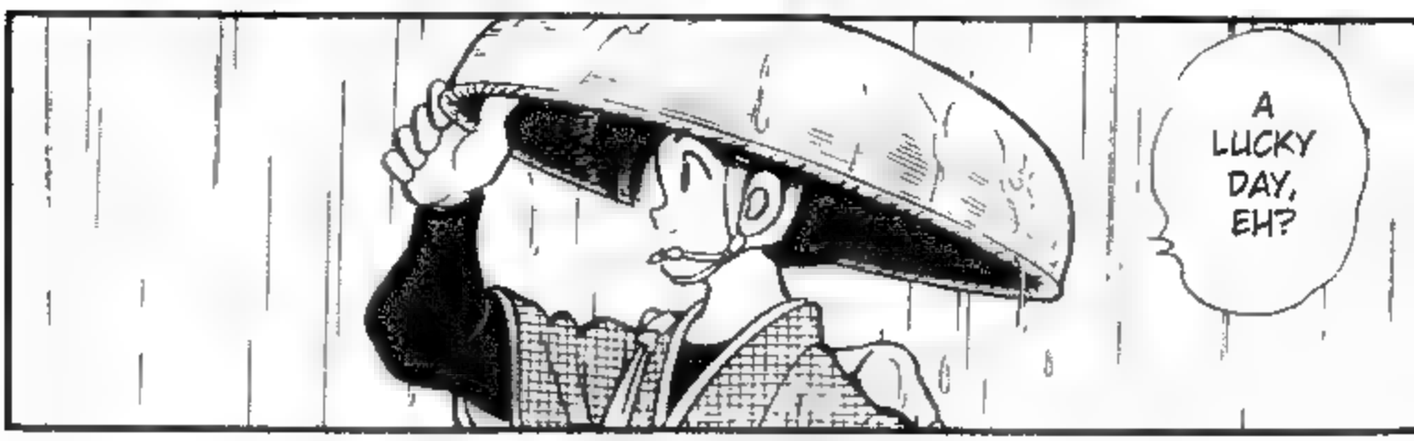
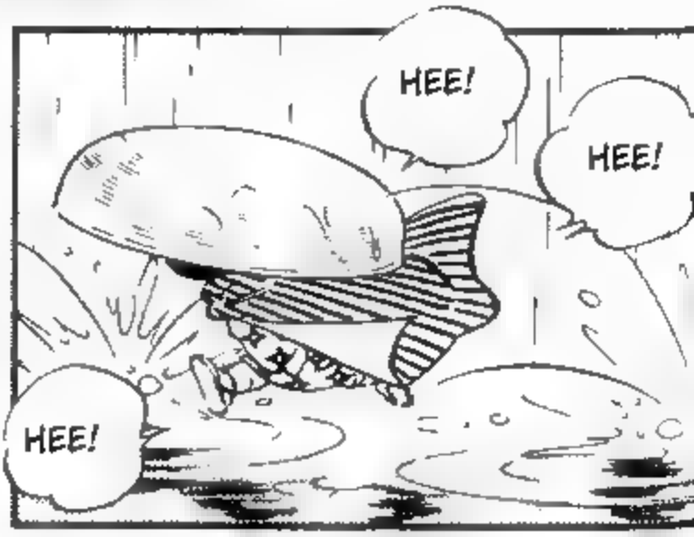
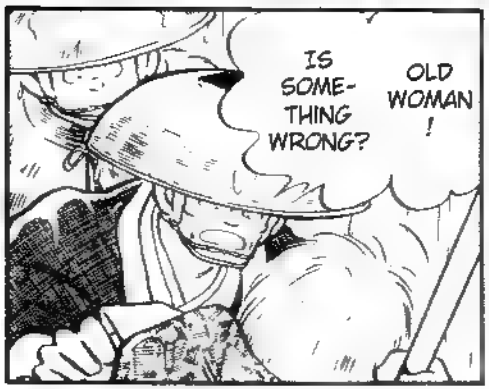
THE RAIN'LL STOP SOON.


A LUCKY DAY, EH?

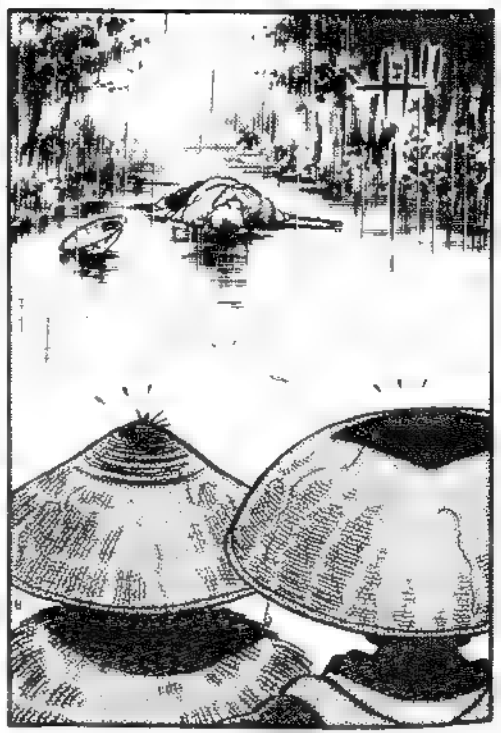
DON'T RUN! WALK SLOWLY!
SANSHOU!


HEE!
HEE!
HEE!

SEE?
OW!


IS SOME-THING WRONG?
OLD WOMAN !

OLD MAN, YOU MEAN!



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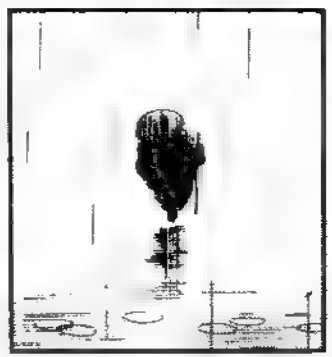

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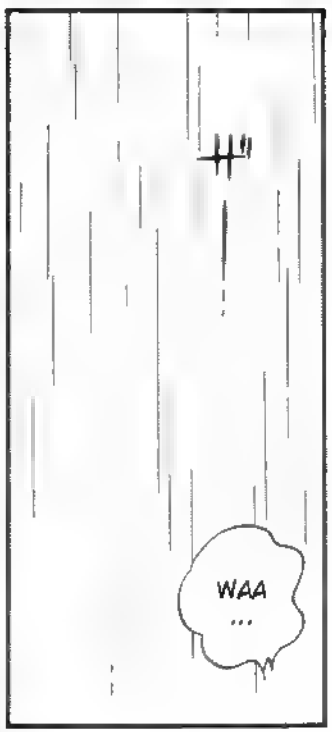
WAA ...

THANKS!
OH.
WATER?

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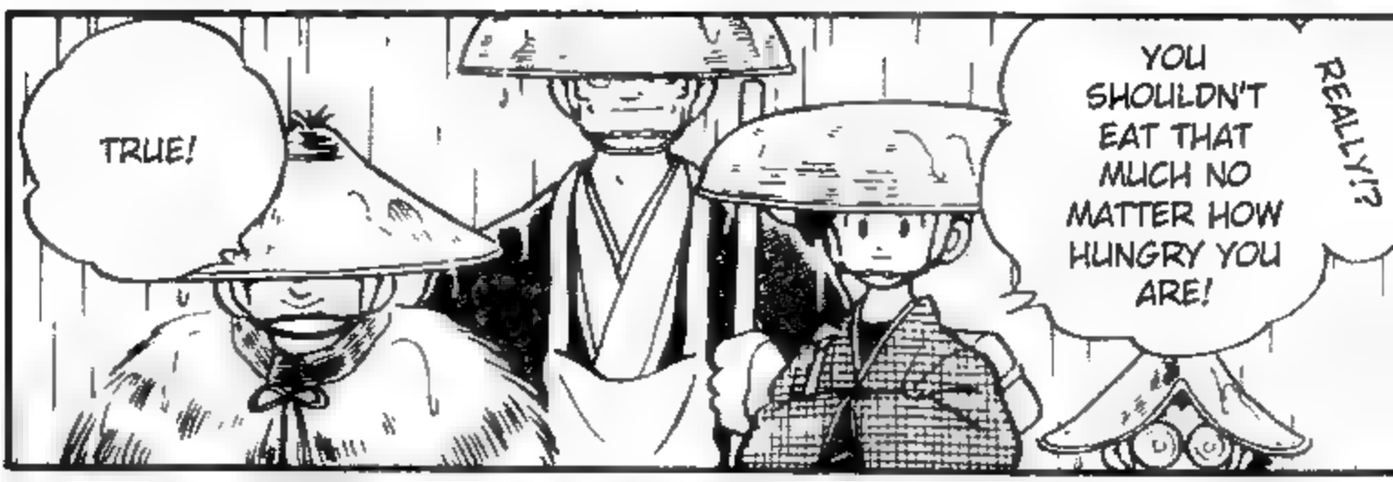
THESE RICE BALLS WOULD BE TASTY ANY TIME!
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT ...

GURGLE!
GURGLE!

THREE DAYS WITHOUT FOOD OR DRINK MAKES ANYTHING SEEM GOOD, EH?
WOW! I HAVEN'T EATEN SO WELL IN YEARS!

THERE'S ONLY...
ONE LEFT.

OOPS!
OH?
DON'T FORGET TO LEAVE SOME FOR US.
WELL, DUH ...


TRUE!
YOU SHOULDN'T EAT THAT MUCH NO MATTER HOW HUNGRY YOU ARE!
REALLY!?

SNIFF ...
HERE.

YOU SAVED MY LIFE!
THANK YOU ALL! NOW I CAN GO FIND MY FRIENDS IN EDO!

KEEP IT AND SAVE IT FOR LATER!
I KNOW!

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU.
WHY NOT ACCEPT THIS?
OH!
REALLY?
I'LL KEEP IT, THEN.
WHAT IS IT?
IT'LL HELP YOU IN TIMES OF TROUBLE.
GOOD LUCK!
BYE-BYE!
エッホ
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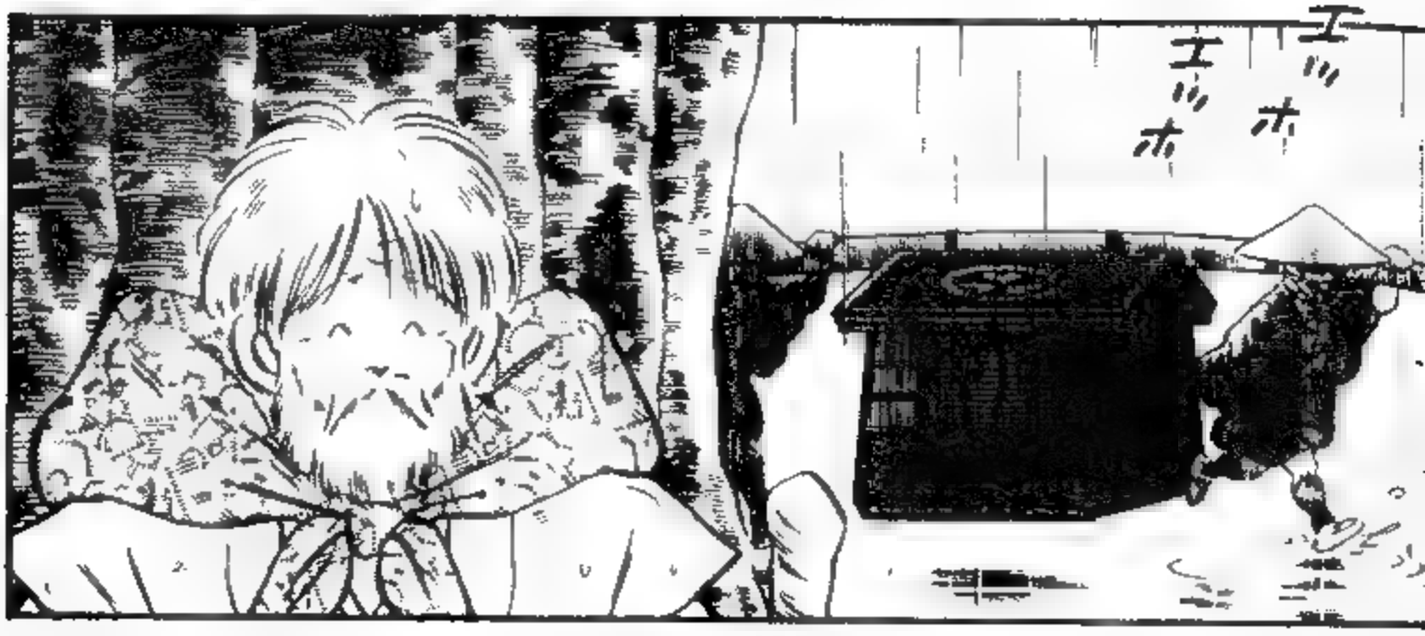
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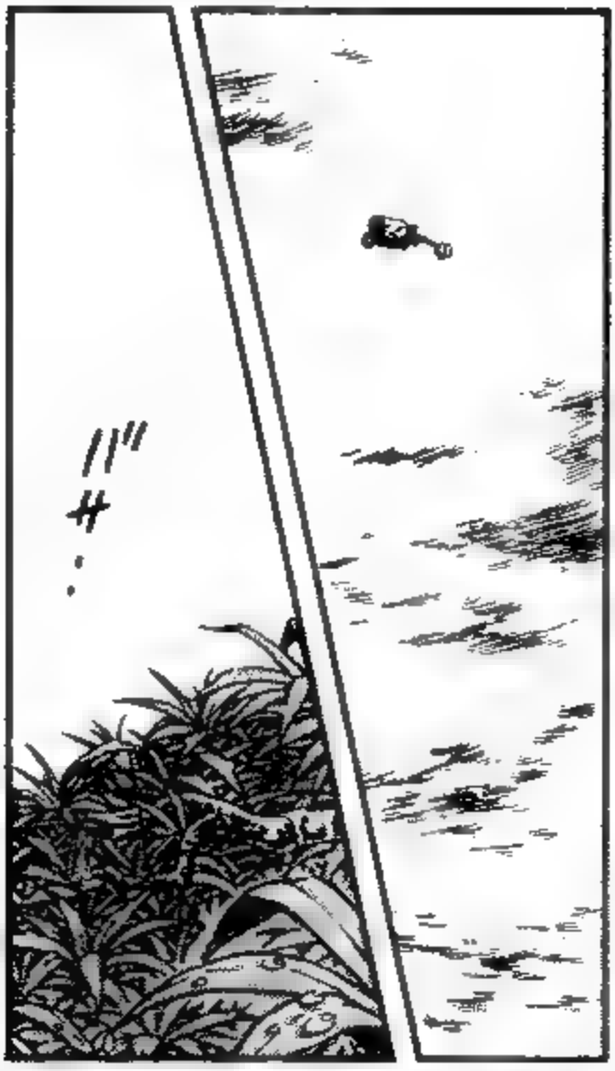
YES.
SIR, GET ON THE SEDAN??? BEFORE YOU CATCH PNEUMONIA.

BON VOYAGE, CHILDREN...

ビ〃

HI!

OH?
WHAT IS THIS THING?!
THIS IS THE SYMBOL OF THE SHOGUN!
REALLY ?
THAT OLD MAN... IT'S GOTTA BE FAKE.
OR STOLEN!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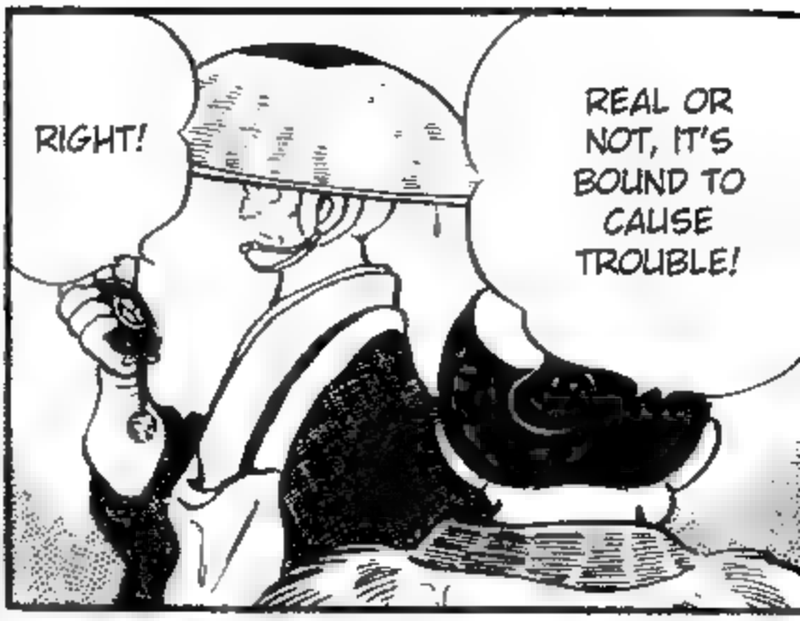
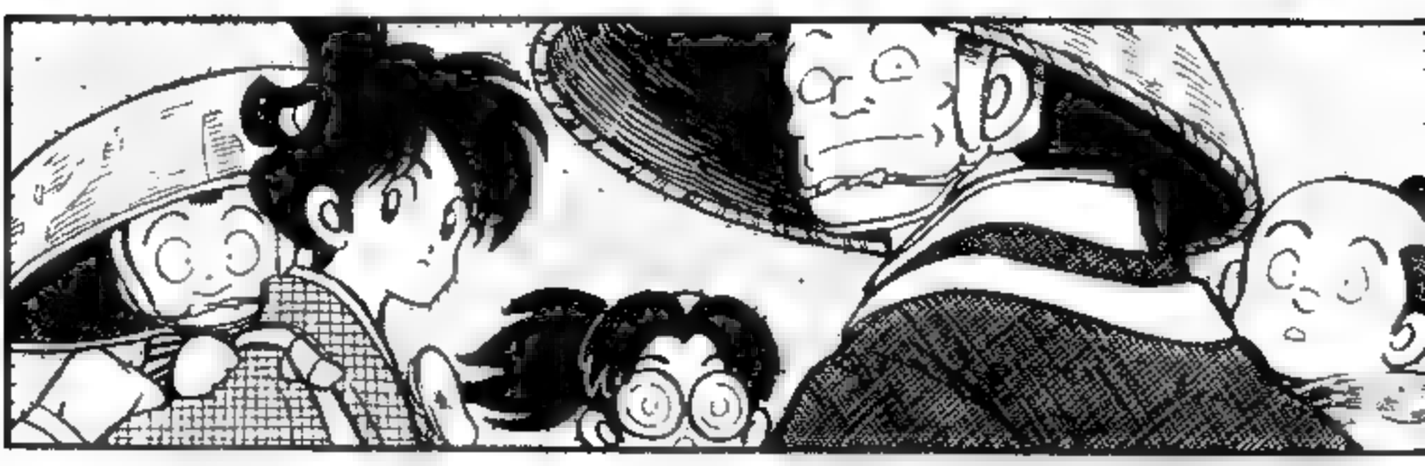

RIGHT!
REAL OR NOT, IT'S BOUND TO CAUSE TROUBLE!

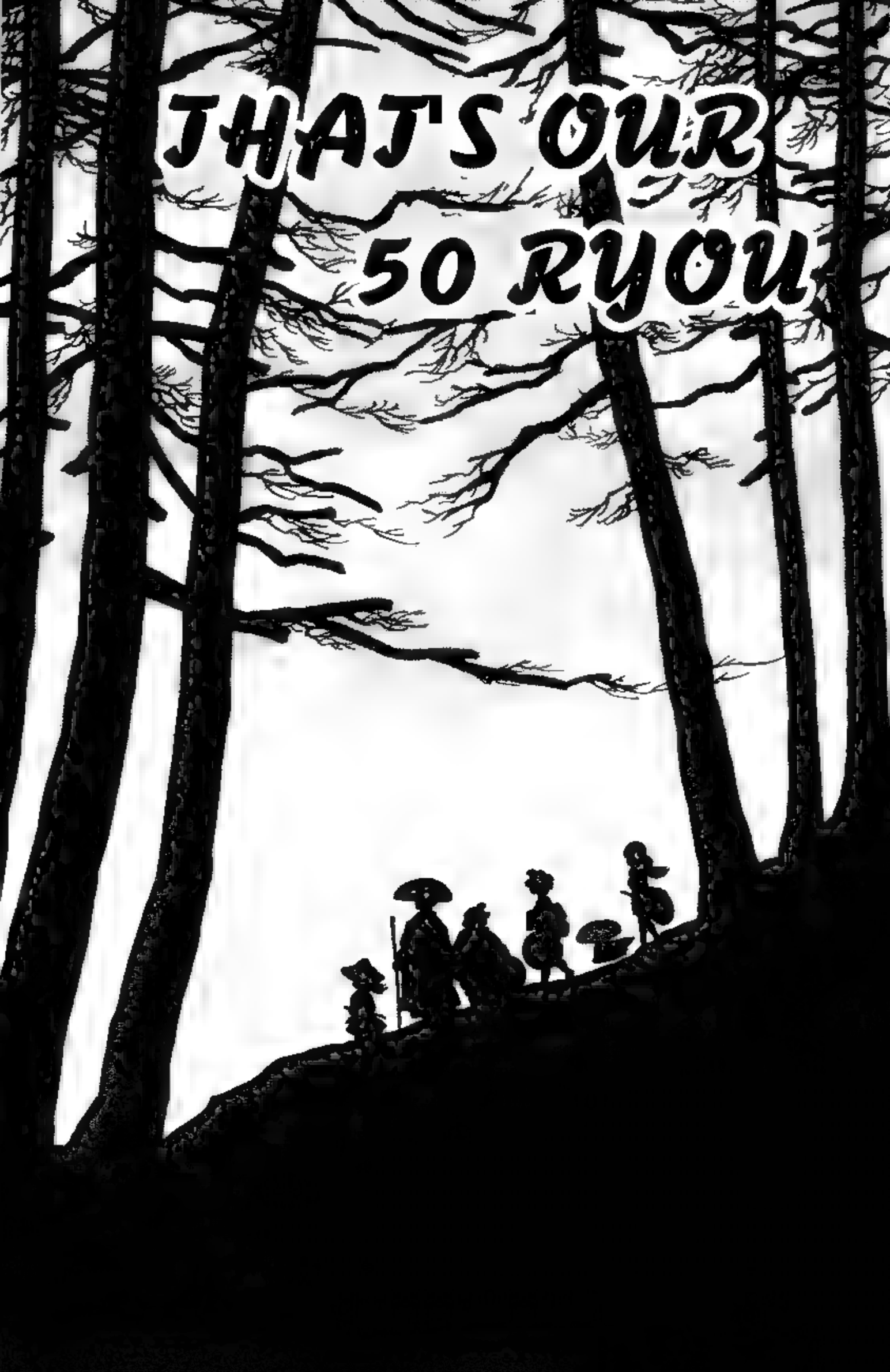
I'LL THROW IT AWAY!

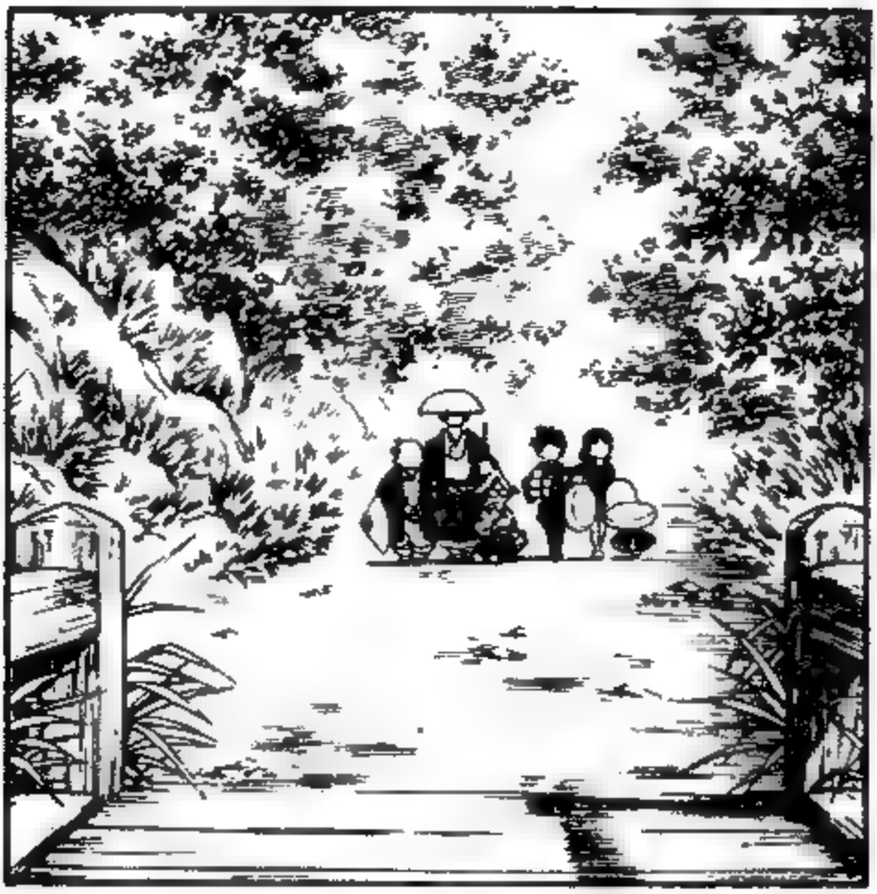
LOOK!

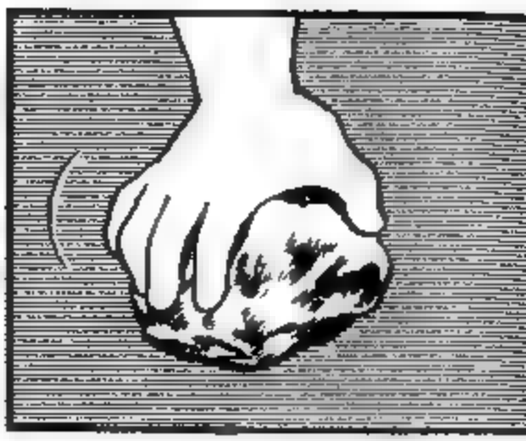
THAT OLD MAN?
I KNEW SOMETHING WAS FISHY FROM THE START...



A BEAUTIFUL RAINBOW, SEEING US OFF ON OUR JOURNEY.


THAT'S OUR
50 RYOU





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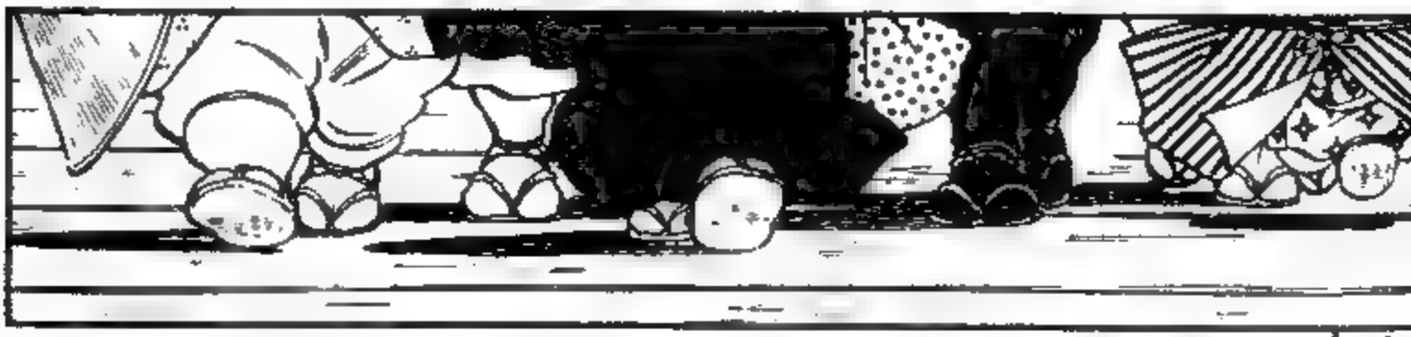
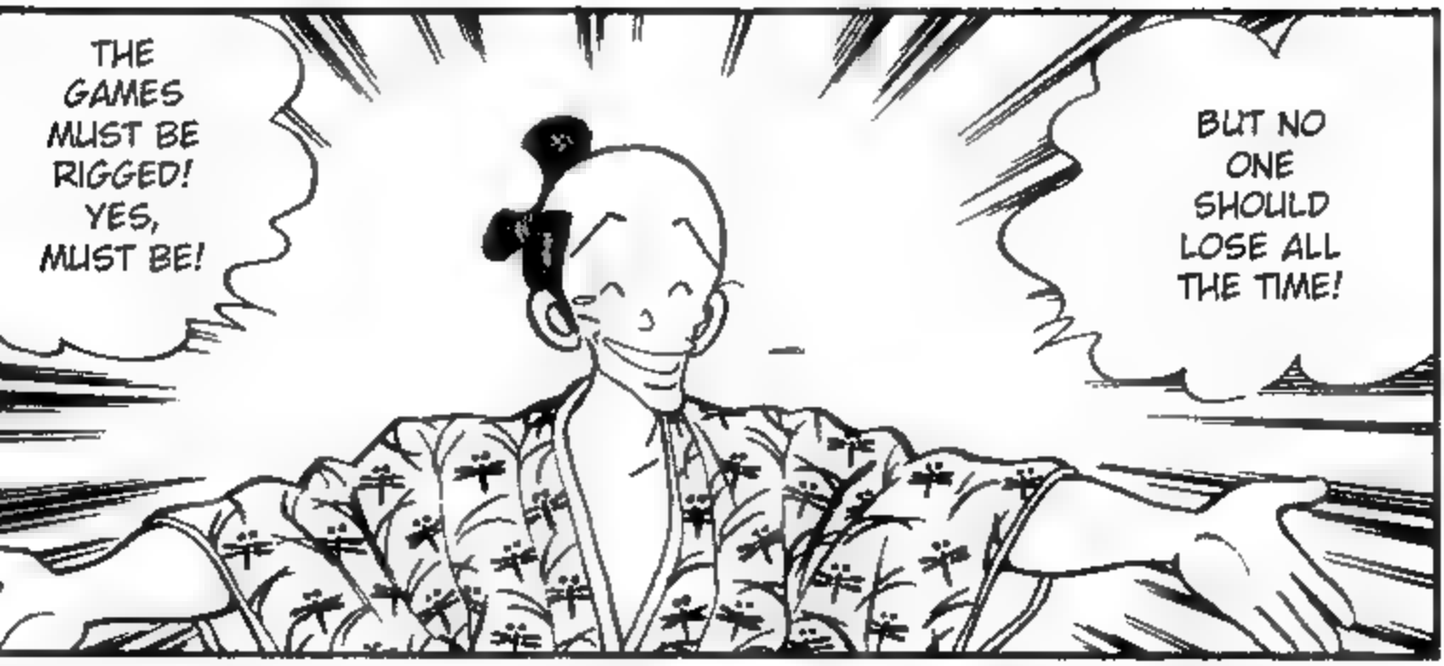


EXCUSE ME, WHAT AM I ABOUT TO DO?
HEY!
WAIT!
CORRECT!
COMMIT SUICIDE BY JUMPING INTO THE RIVER.
DON'T WORRY, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE DROWNING.
IT JUST RAINED. THERE'S LOTS OF WATER IN THE RIVER.
UH...
AREN'T YOU GOING TO ASK ME WHY?
NO,

CAN'T YOU AT LEAST LET THE READERS IN?
YOU'RE NO FUN!
WHAT KIND OF AN ATTI-TUDE IS THAT?
WE ALREADY MET A STRANGE MAN AT THE START OF OUR TRIP. WE DON'T WANT TO BE FOOLED AGAIN.
SORRY ...
BESIDES, WE DON'T EVEN HAVE TO ASK YOU TO FIGURE OUT WHY.
AND NOW YOU'RE FINISHING IT ALL!
AND TO GET OUT OF DEBT, YOU STOLE FROM THE PUBLIC TREASURY.
A VERY UNLUCKY ONE!
OKAY, YOU'RE A CHRONIC GAMBLER!
WATER GHOST !
DIE!
JUMP!

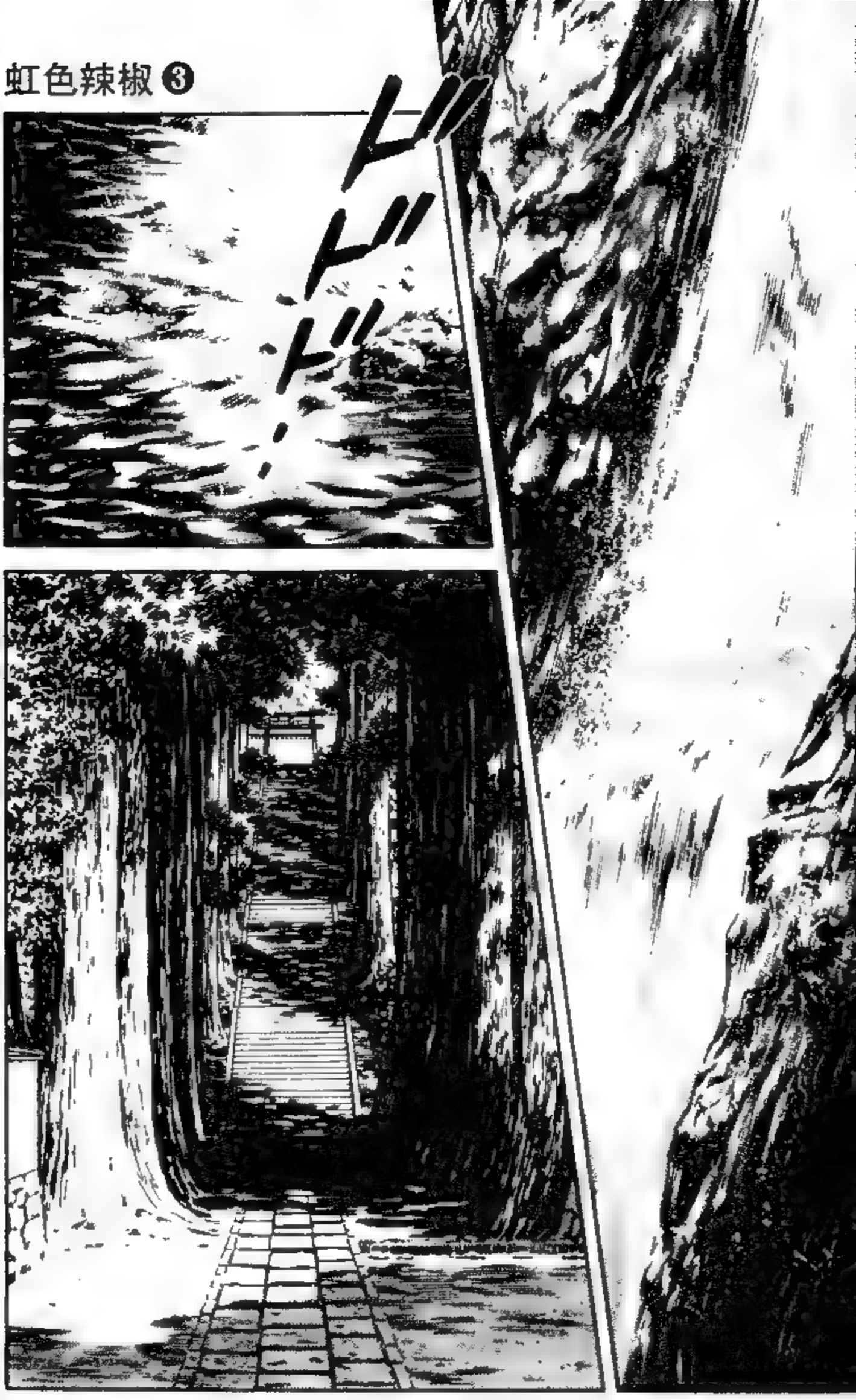

THE GAMES MUST BE RIGGED! YES, MUST BE!
BUT NO ONE SHOULD LOSE ALL THE TIME!

WELL, 20 RYOU IS NOTHING AT THE CASINO, BUT TO EARN IT THROUGH HARD WORK...
COULD TAKE YEARS!
HEH!

THIS IS CALLED "DIGGING YOUR OWN GRAVE"!
OF COURSE THEY'RE RIGGED.

SO GO AND EARN 20 RYOU!
THAT KILLING ONESELF OVER A MERE 20 RYOU IS VERY SAD?
BUT DON'T YOU THINK. ..

YOU DESERVE TO DIE.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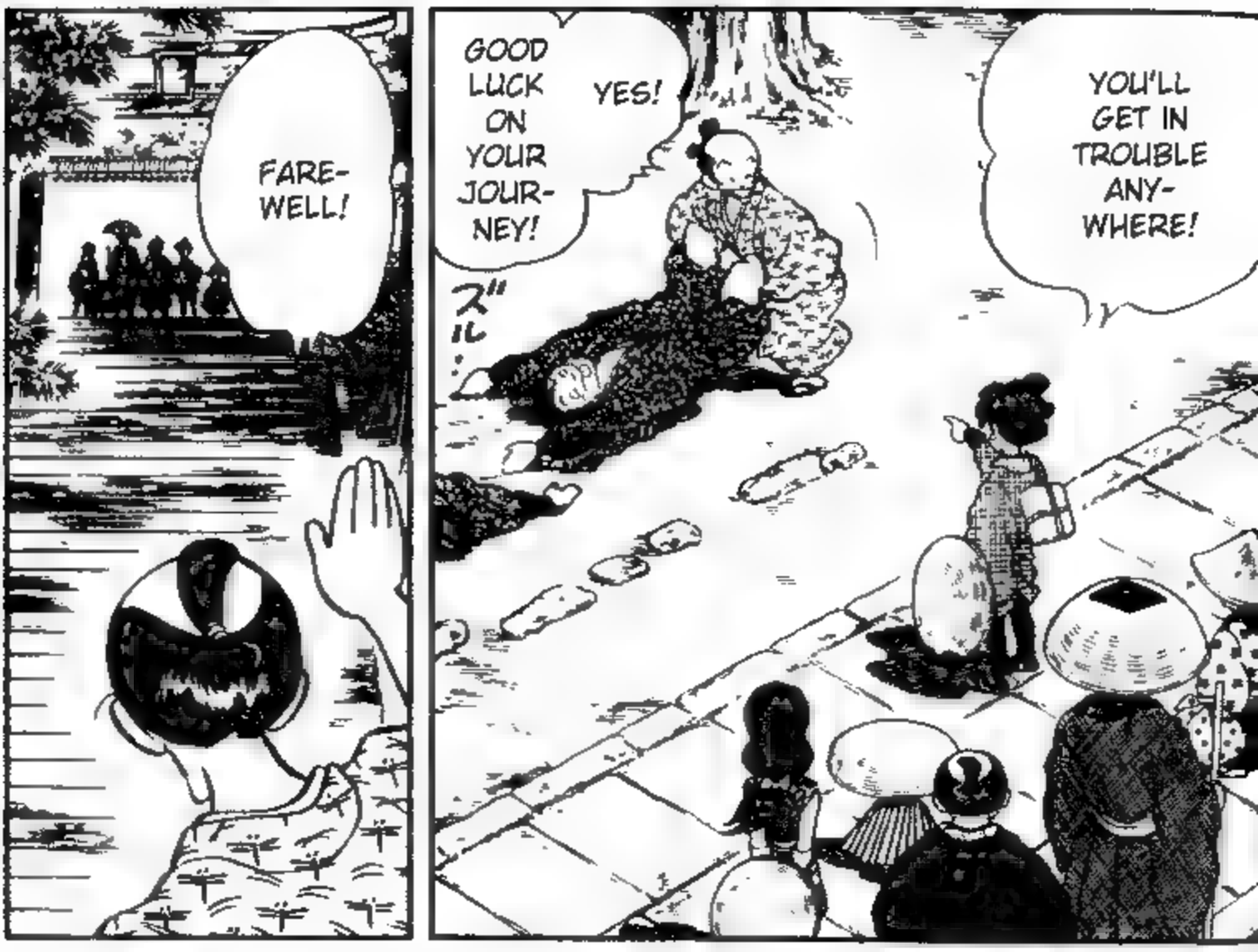
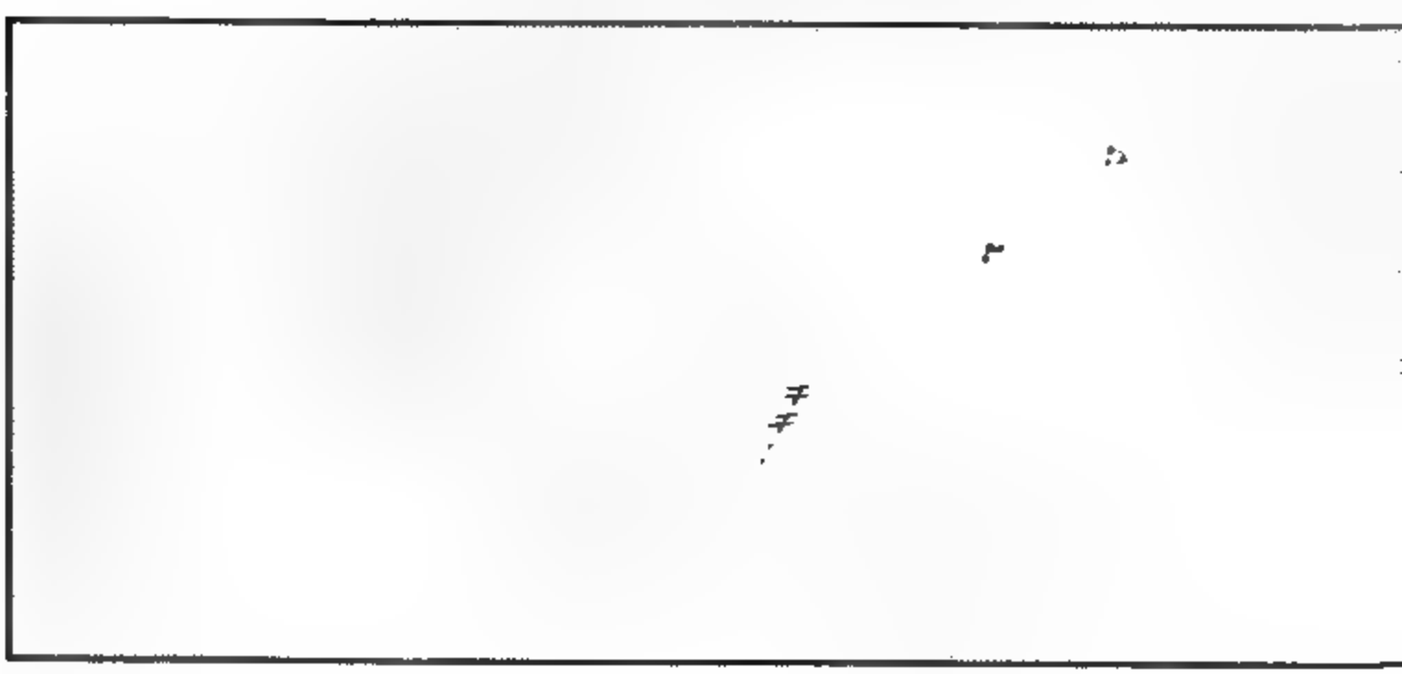
DON'T FOLLOW US!
I WANT YOU TO BE PUNISHED FOR IGNORING AN UNFORTUNATE SOUL!
HMPH!
THAT'S PREPOSTEROUS!
HEE HEE ...
SO IF I FOLLOW YOU, YOU'LL BOUND TO BE UNLUCKY!
I'M JINXED!

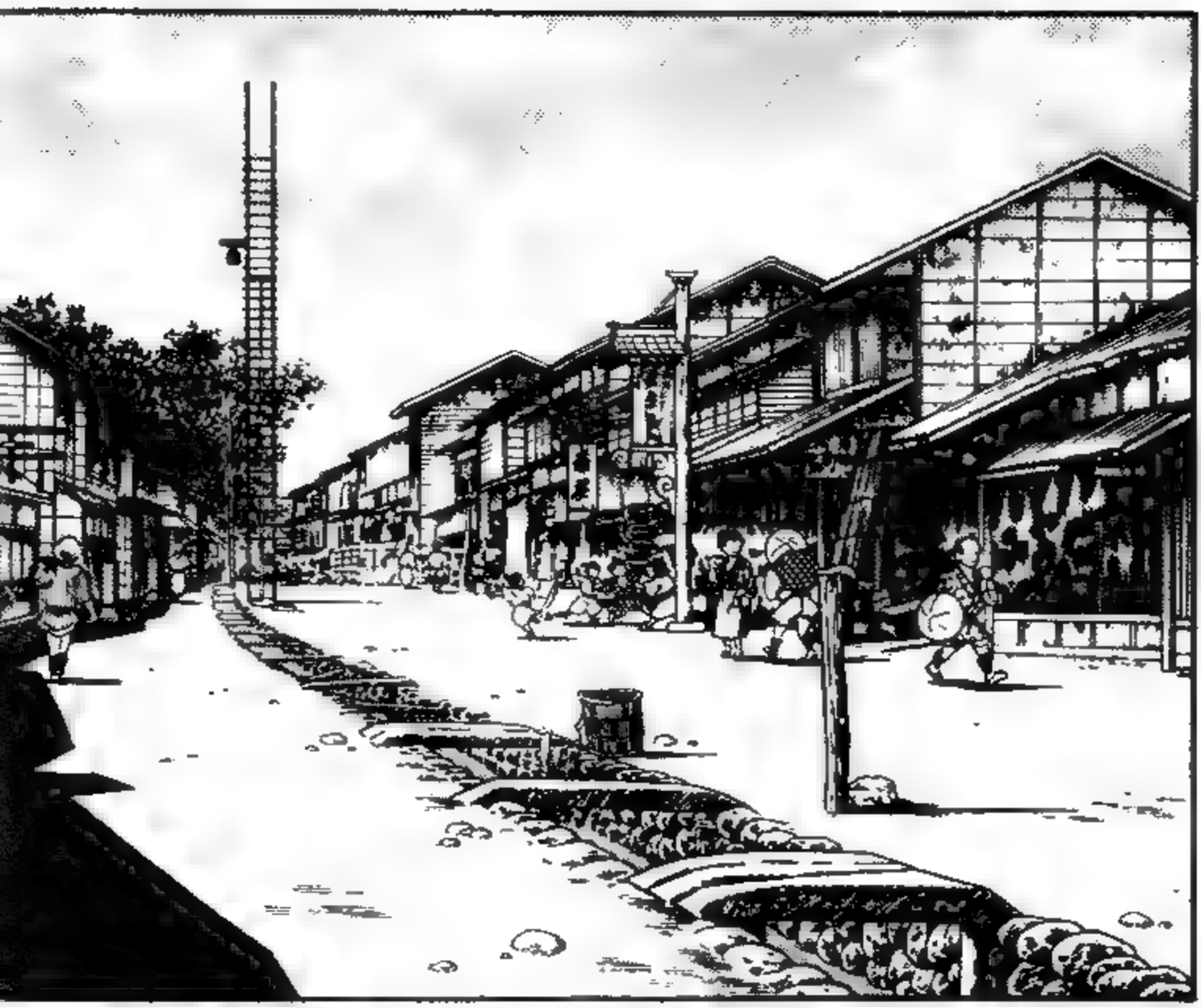
YOUR MONEY...
...OR YOUR LIFE!
SHUT UP!
I *AM* JINXED!
WAAH!

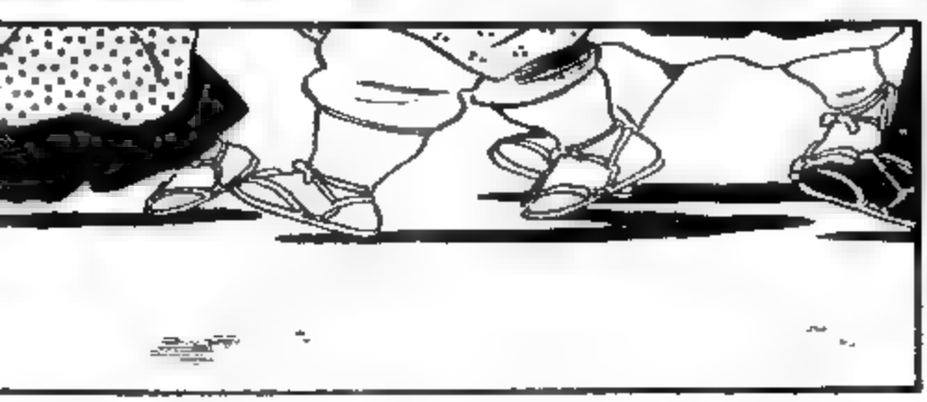
OH!

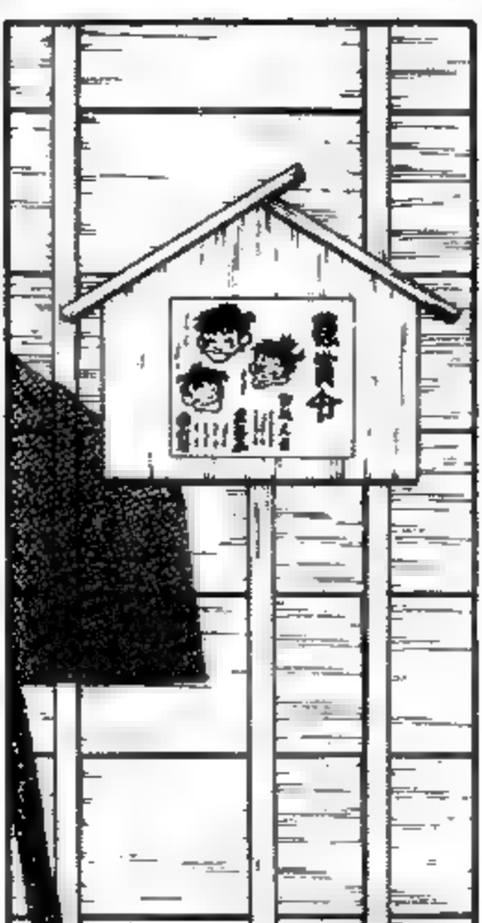
HERE, OUT IN THE DAY-LIGHT,
AND THEY STILL DARED TO ROB PASSER-BYS?
YEAH!
SO WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THEM?
CAN'T LEAVE THEM IN THE ROAD LIKE THIS.
OH!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS ANNOY-ANCE!
EVEN THOUGH YOU GOT ME IN TROUBLE, I'LL DO IT AS A FAVOR ON ACCOUNT OF SAVING MY LIFE!
HEH! HEH!
WHO GOT WHO IN TROUBLE?

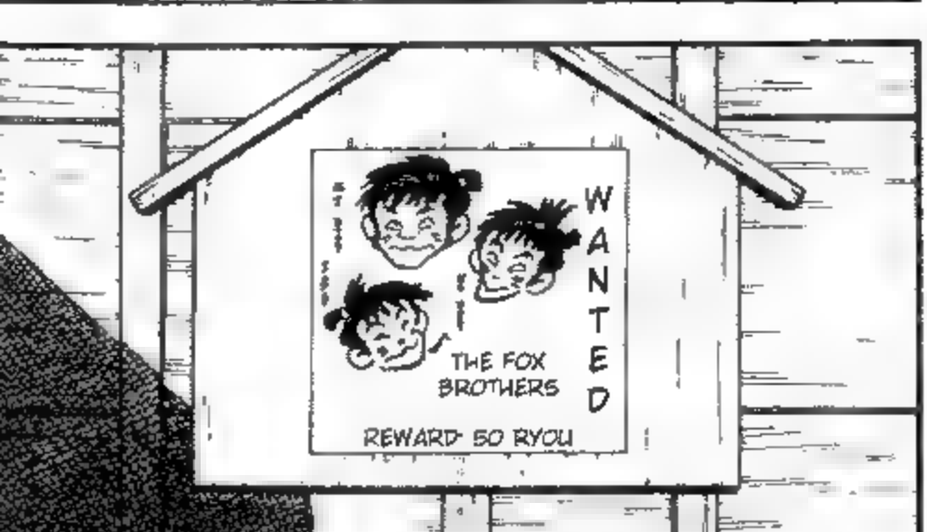

FARE-
WELL!
GOOD
LUCK
ON
YOUR
JOUR-
NEY!
YES!
YOU'LL
GET IN
TROUBLE
ANY-
WHERE!
ズ"ル

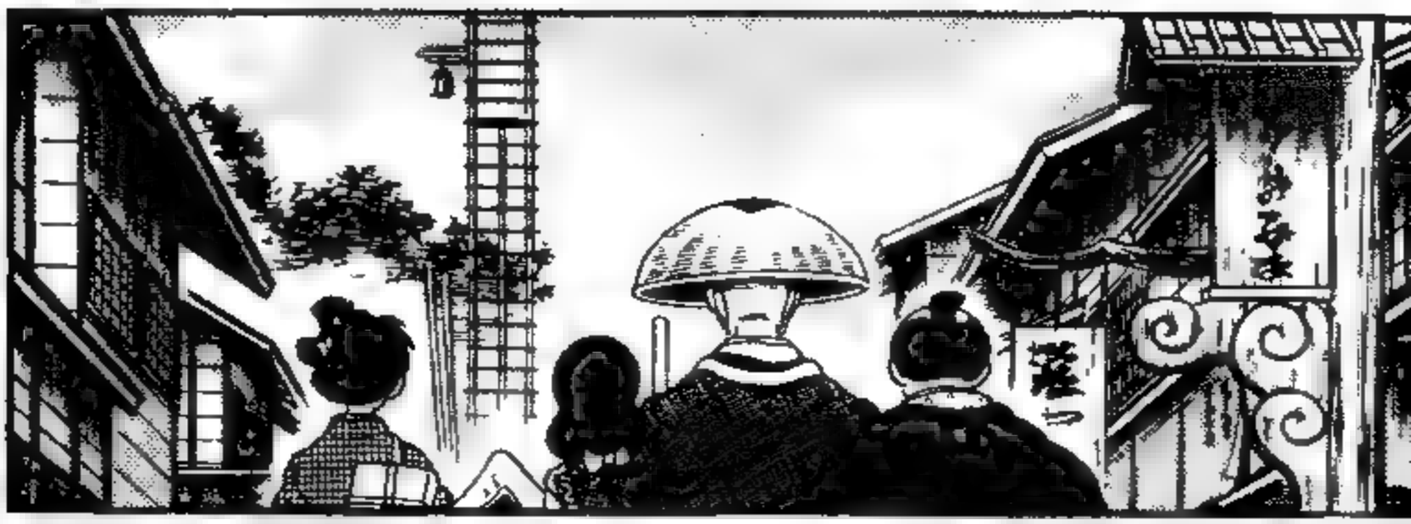




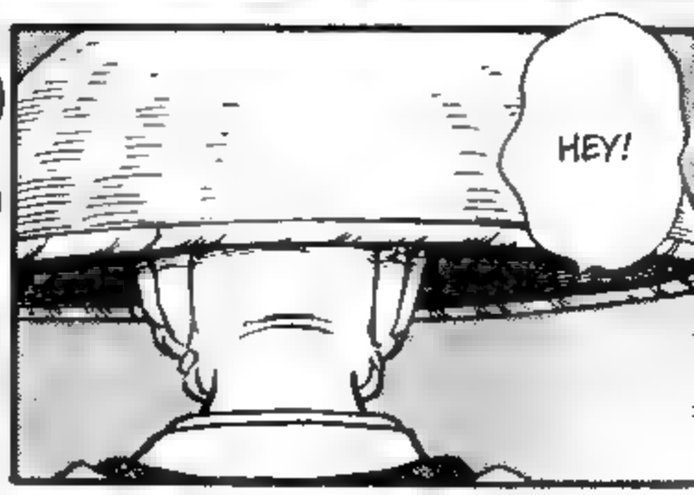





WANTED
THE FOX BROTHERS
REWARD 50 RYOU



WAIT!


HEY!

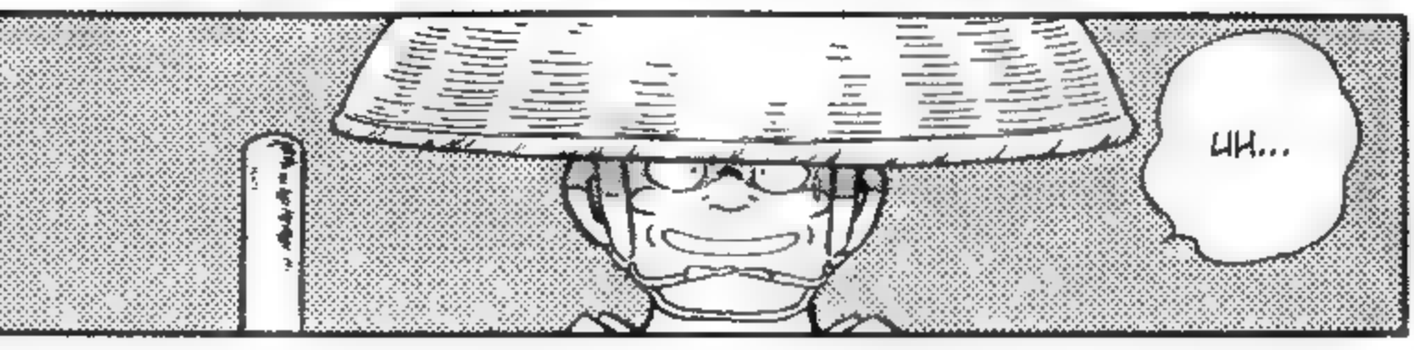
WANTED
THE FOX BROTHERS
REWARD: 50 RYOU

SO RYOU ?!?
WHY, THAT...!

FOUND HIM!

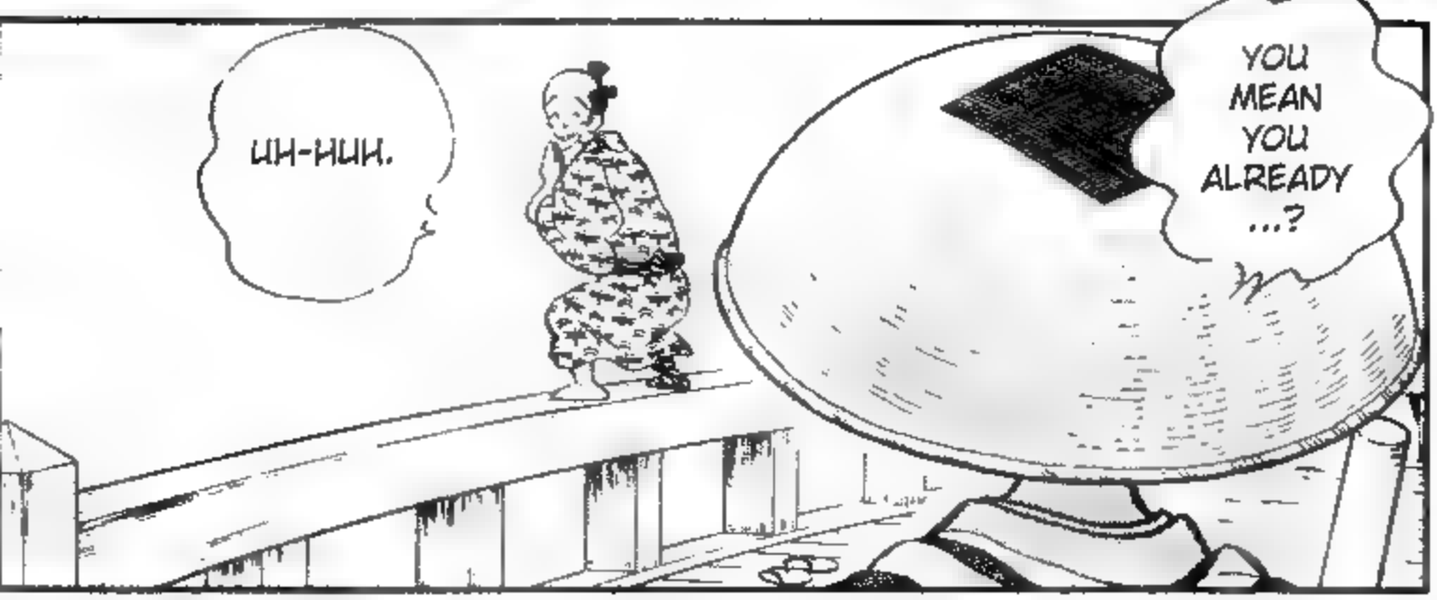
OH!

!!

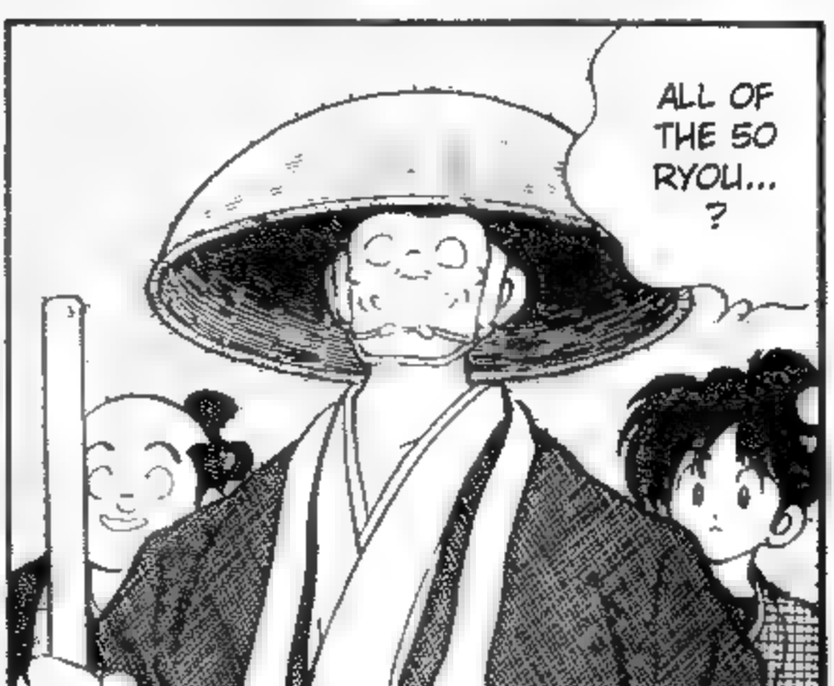

UH...

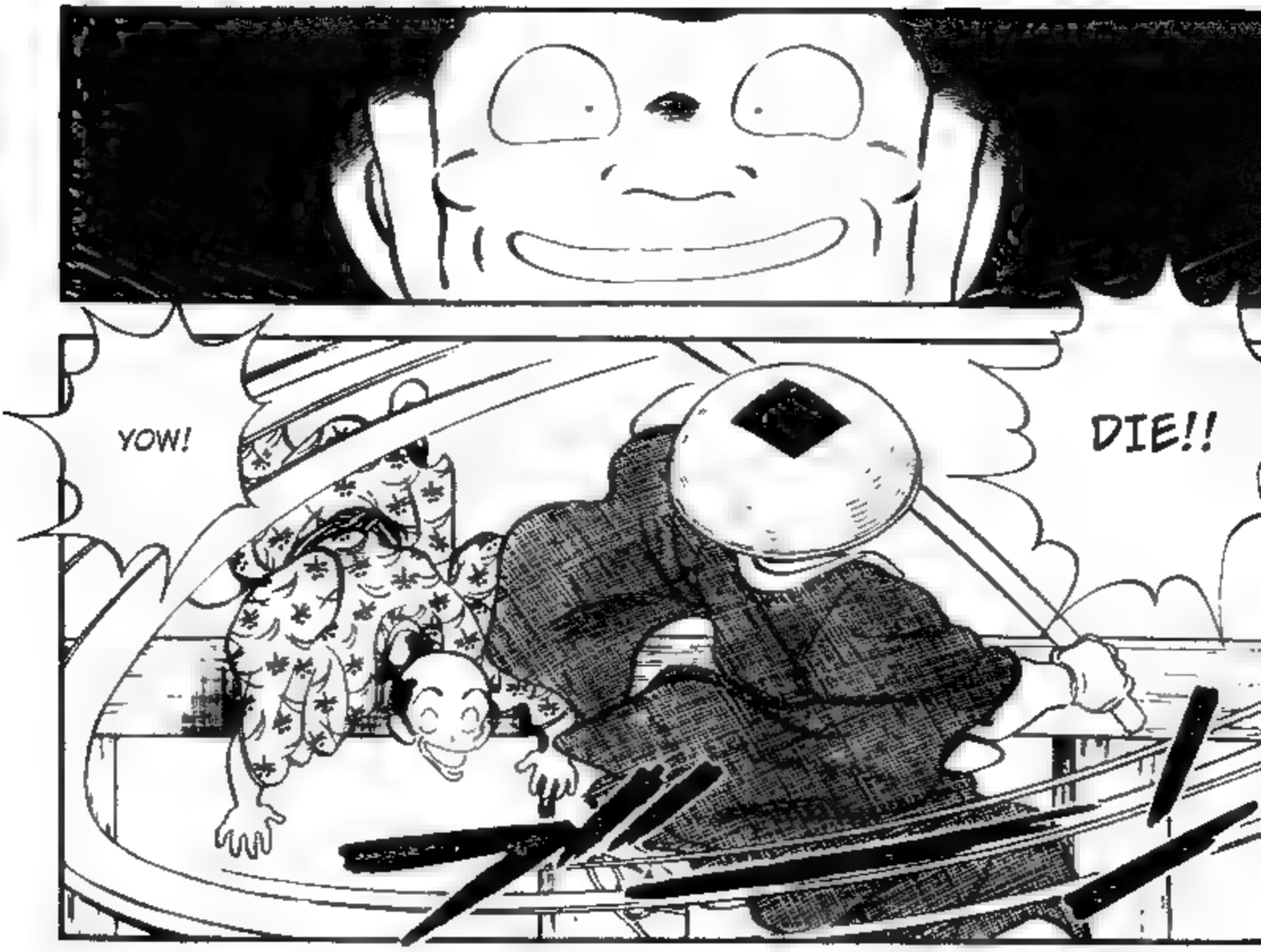
Gambling Talents

YOU CAN GUESS.
PLEASE DON'T ASK.


UH-HUH.
YOU MEAN YOU ALREADY ...?

ALL OF THE 50 RYOU.


ALL OF THE 50 RYOU... ?


YOW!
DIE!!

EVEN FOR A GAMBLER, THAT WAS TOO FAST, THOUGH.

I TOLD YOU, IT'S GOTTA BE RIGGED!

I'LL KILL YOU RIGHT NOW!
FORGET THAT!
I WAS GOING TO JUMP MYSELF!

UP TO THEN, I THOUGHT THAT I WAS JUST UNLUCKY ...
HEY! CALM DOWN!
SO, THEN, WHY THE HELL DID YOU GO?!
WHAT?
I'M SURE OF IT! POSITIVE! THEY'RE RIGGED!
BUT NOW ...
I'LL FALL!
HEY!
THE 50 RYOU THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE OURS!?
YOU SPENT THE 50 RYOU JUST TO FIGURE OUT IF THE GAMES WERE RIGGED??

THERE'S STILL ONE LEFT!!
OH?
ポチャ
ドボボボーン

WITH THAT SWIMMING ABILITY, YOU EXPECTED TO DROWN YOURSELF?
OH!
HAVEN'T LEARNED YOUR LESSON, EH?
GIMME ANOTHER CHANCE!

ゴォ
THEN ...
WE'LL GO TO THE HOTEL.
OKAY.

I DON'T WANT FOUR WATER GHOSTS HAUNTING ME!
LIKE THIS LOSER? NO WAY!
DON'T WORRY.
I'LL GET BACK OUR SO RYOU.
DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO GET SO WORKED UP OVER MONEY.
THIS BALDY KNOWS MORE ABOUT DICE THAN HIS BOOKS!
DON'T YOU RE-MEMBER MY SKILLS?
OW!
LEAD THE WAY!
JINX!

WELCOME TO OUR PALACE DEN-DOUCHOU-HAN CASINO
WANT TO TRY YOUR LUCK? C'MON IN!
LET'S GO.
PALACE DICE GAME CASINO

ODD!
EVEN!
C'MON,
C'MON!
LET'S
SEE!
BETS
PLACED!
OPEN!
ODD!
EVEN!
5-2
ODD!
4-6
EVEN!

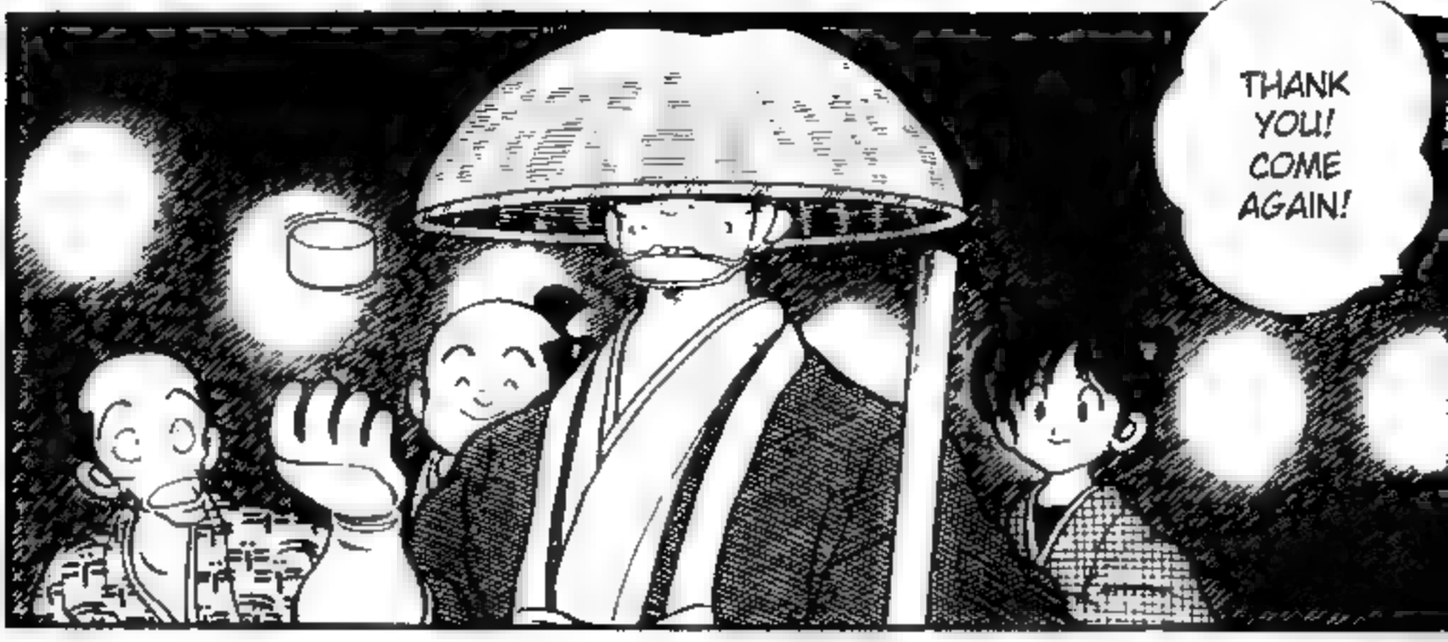
WOW!

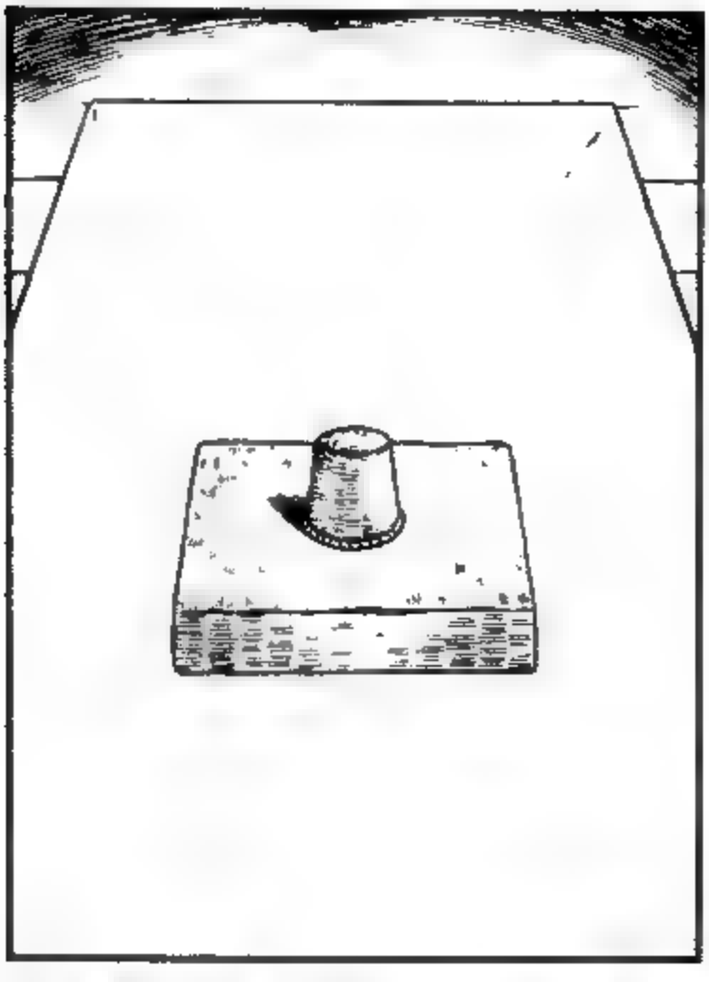
THIS IS THE WAY TO PLAY!
UNDER-STAND?

EVEN!

I KNOW!
THAT'S ENOUGH SWEET STUFF, RIGHT?

SNAKE EYES EVEN!
3-6 ODD!
ODD!
HEH, YEAH.
NO MORE SWEET STUFF!
HEY! YOU WANT TO GIVE 'EM CAVITIES?
EVEN!
ODD!
EVEN.


THANK YOU! COME AGAIN!



UM ... ER ...
WHAT'S GOING ON?

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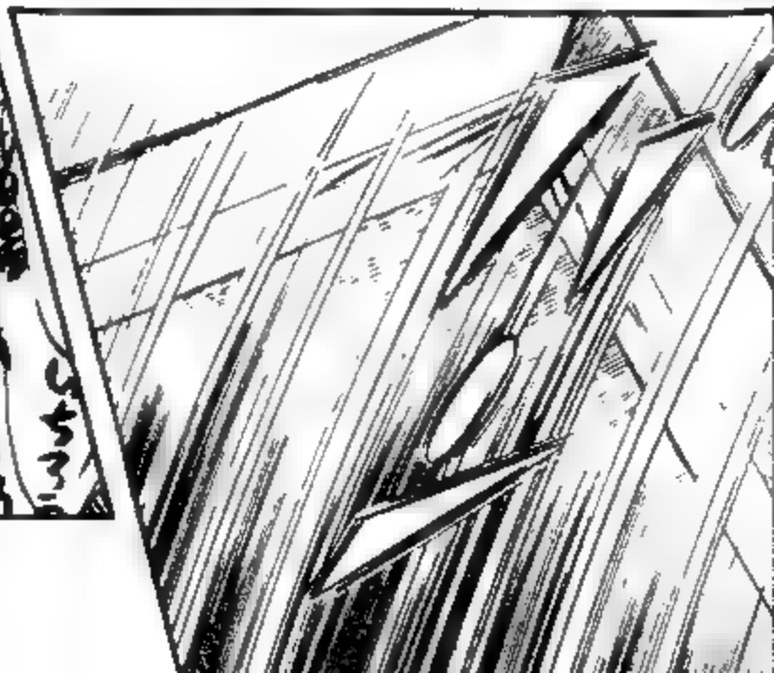

MMPH!
MMPH!
CATCH HIM!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
THAT BASTARD MONK!
IT WAS A FINE PLACE!
WITH LUCK AND SKILL, ONE CAN STILL WIN.
WHAP!
ONLY AN IMBECILE LIKE YOU WOULD BLAME THE CASINO!

YEAH,
I KNOW I'M NOT CUT OUT TO BE A GAMBLER.
I WON'T PLAY AGAIN!
GOOD BYE.
WHAT YOU STOLE FROM THE TREASURY ...
HUH?
20 RYOU, RIGHT?
WORK HARD AND LUCK WILL RETURN NATURALLY!
WHAT GOES AROUND, COMES AROUND!
OH ...
THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

KILL! KILL THEM!
GET OUR MONEY!
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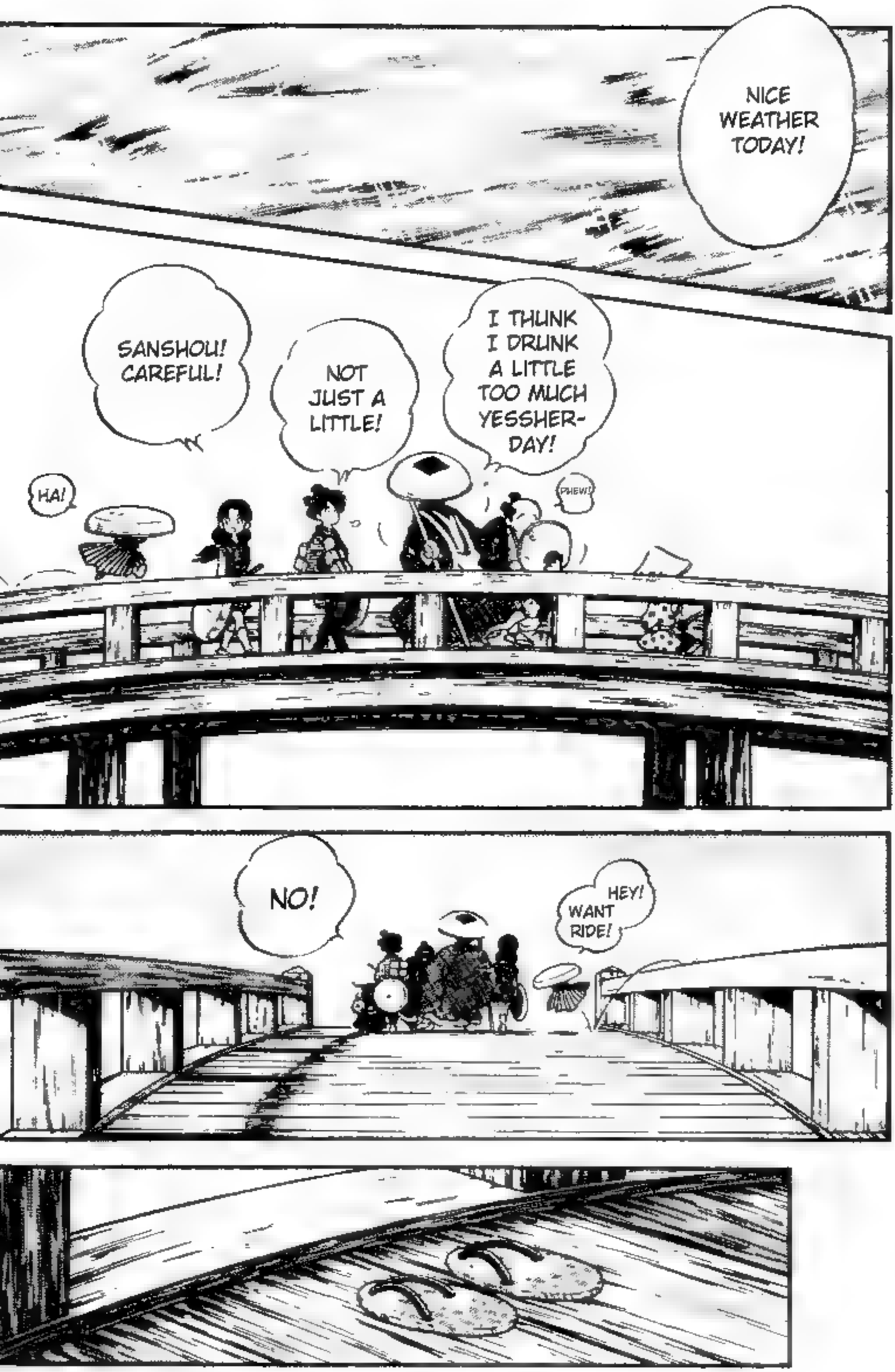
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
AREN'T YOU ONE OF OUR MEN?

YEAH...
HEH.


NICE WEATHER TODAY!
SANSHOU! CAREFUL!
NOT JUST A LITTLE!
I THUNK I DRUNK A LITTLE TOO MUCH YESSHER-DAY!
HA!
PHEW!
NO!
HEY! WANT RIDE!

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This guy is no good

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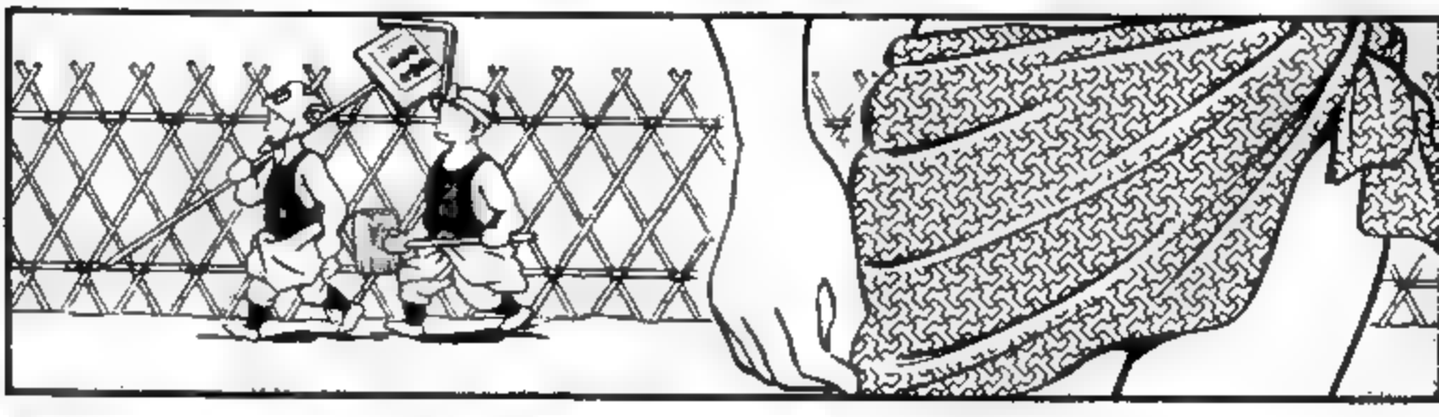

THINGS THAT
ARE SAID CAN
NEVER BE
TRUSTED

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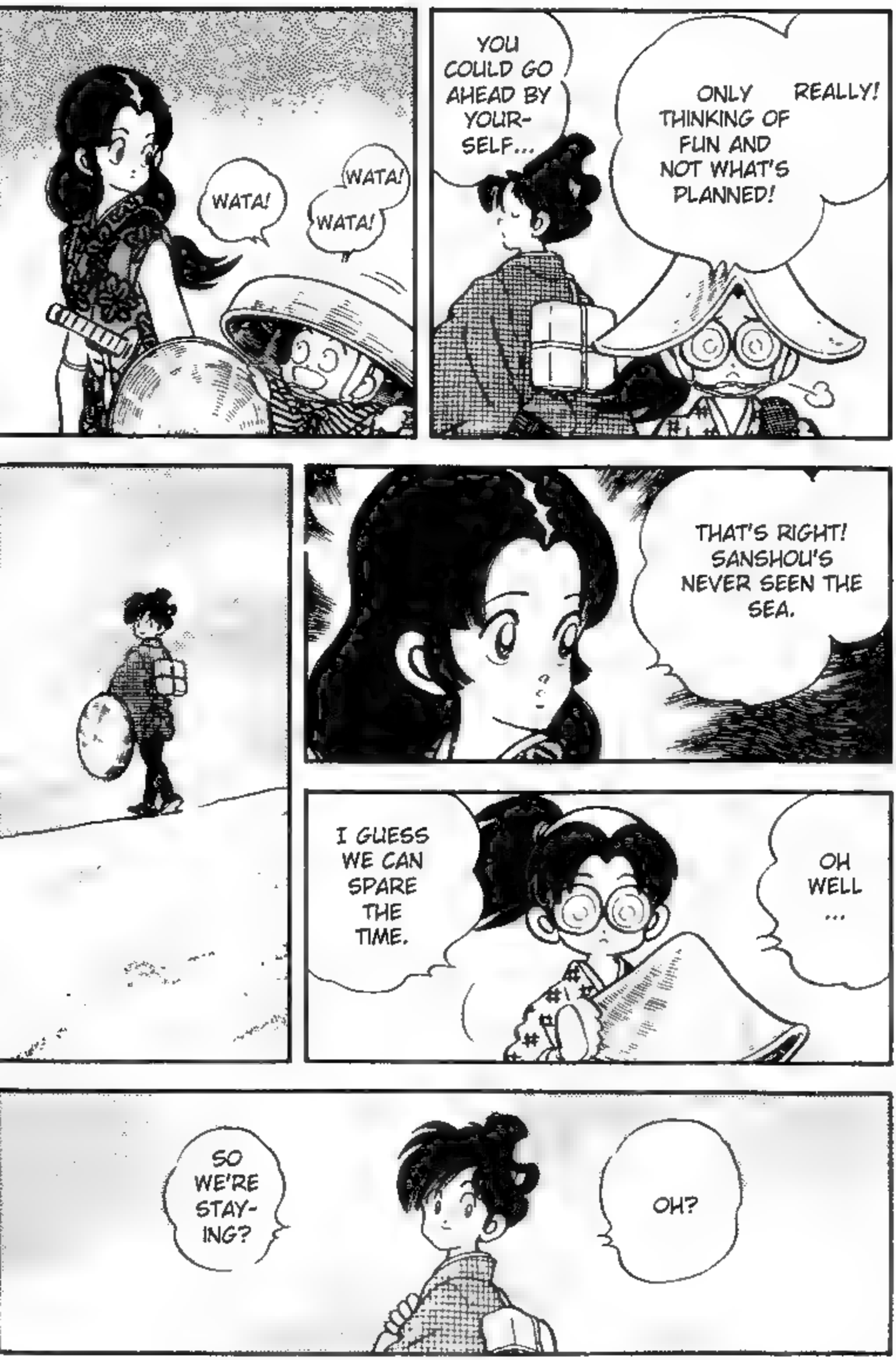
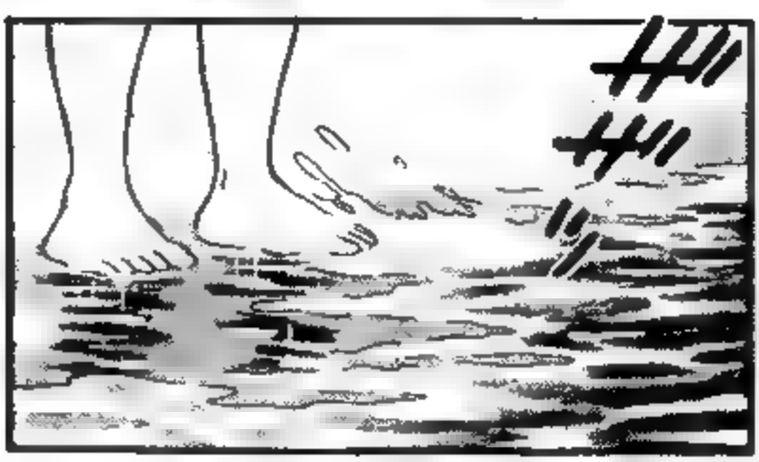
カーン

LIM...
TRAVEL-
LING IS
GOOD!

HEY! YOU GUYS!
YAY!
COME ON!
FEELS GREAT!
WOAH!

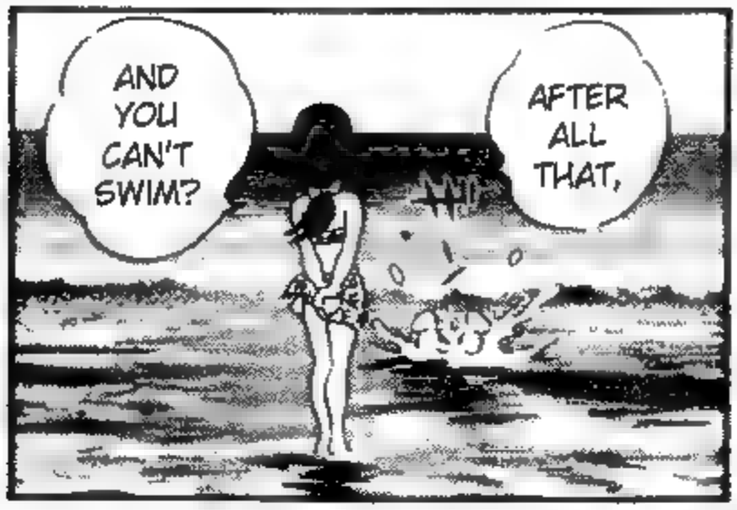

WATA!
WATA!
WATA!
YOU COULD GO AHEAD BY YOUR-SELF...
REALLY! ONLY THINKING OF FUN AND NOT WHAT'S PLANNED!
THAT'S RIGHT! SANSHOU'S NEVER SEEN THE SEA.
I GUESS WE CAN SPARE THE TIME.
OH WELL ...
SO WE'RE STAY-ING?
OH?

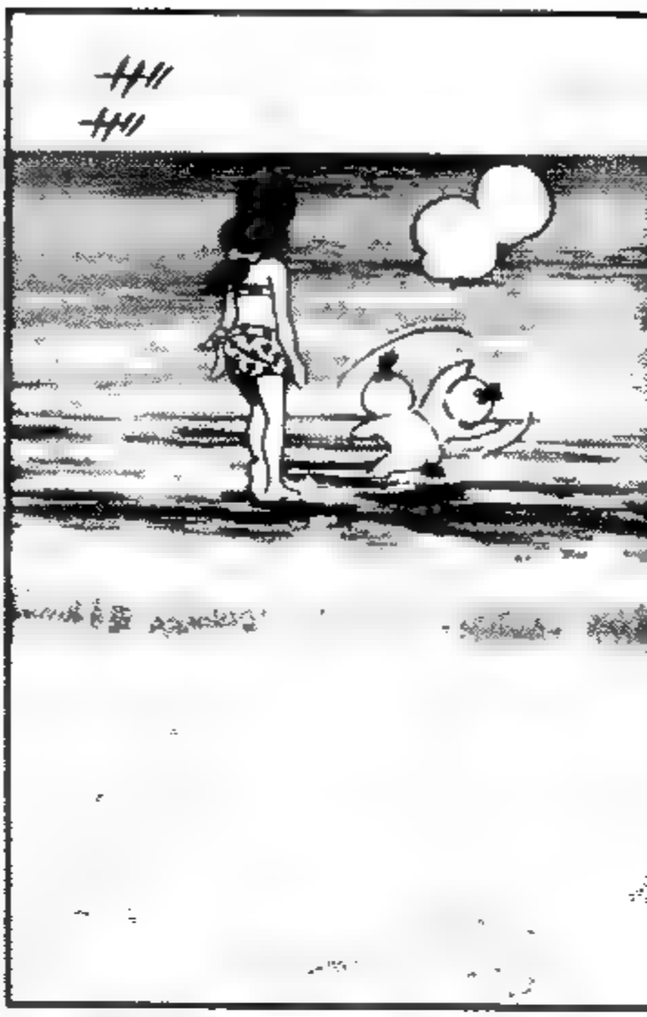


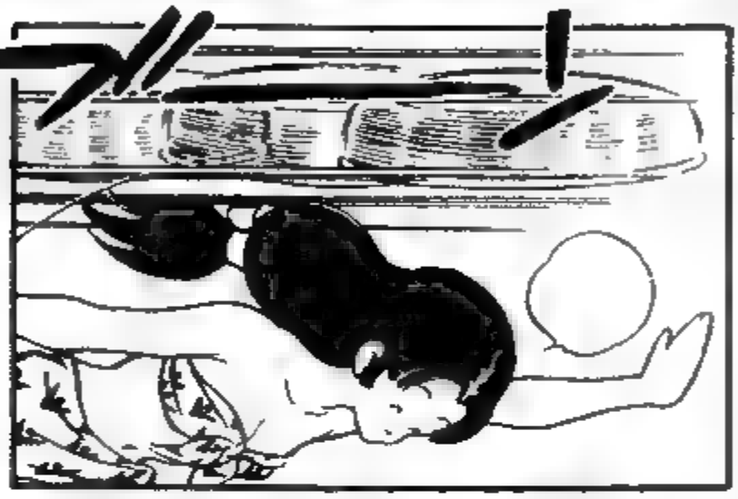
.....

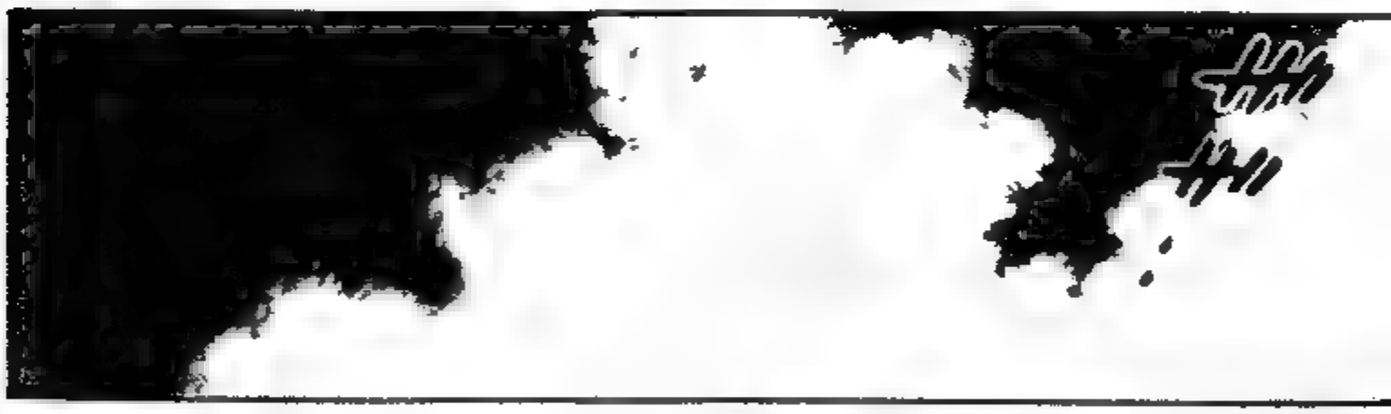
— BALD GUY!
— AAA!
— EEE!
HELLO, LADIES!

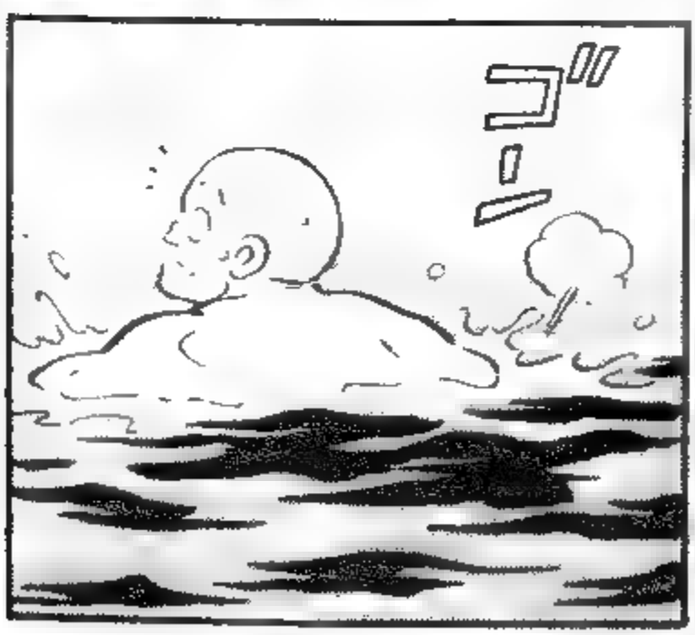
SOMEONE HAS TO LOOK AFTER THIS STUFF!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO SWIM?
I THINK YOU JUST CAN'T SWIM!

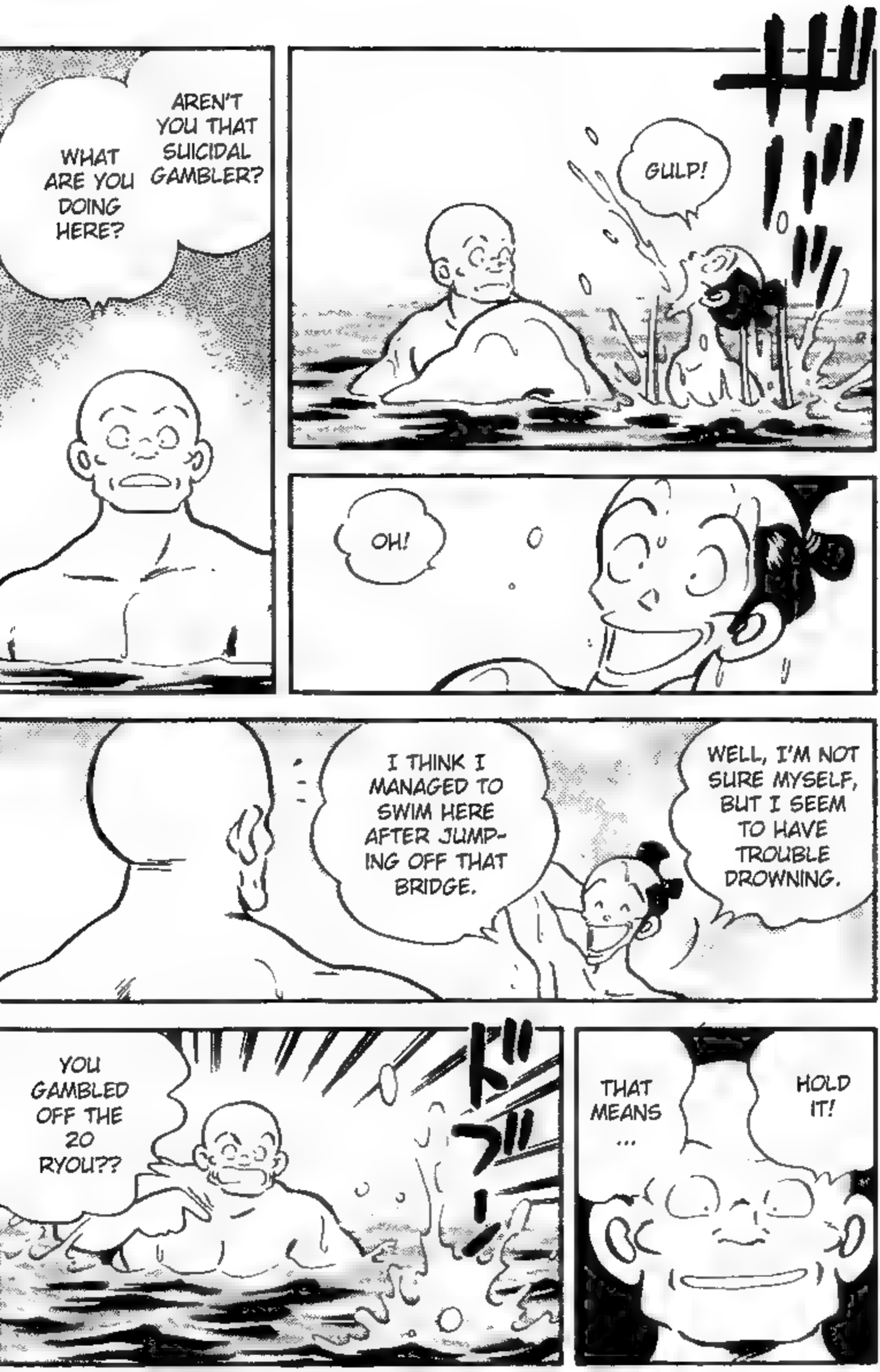

AND YOU CAN'T SWIM?
AFTER ALL THAT,

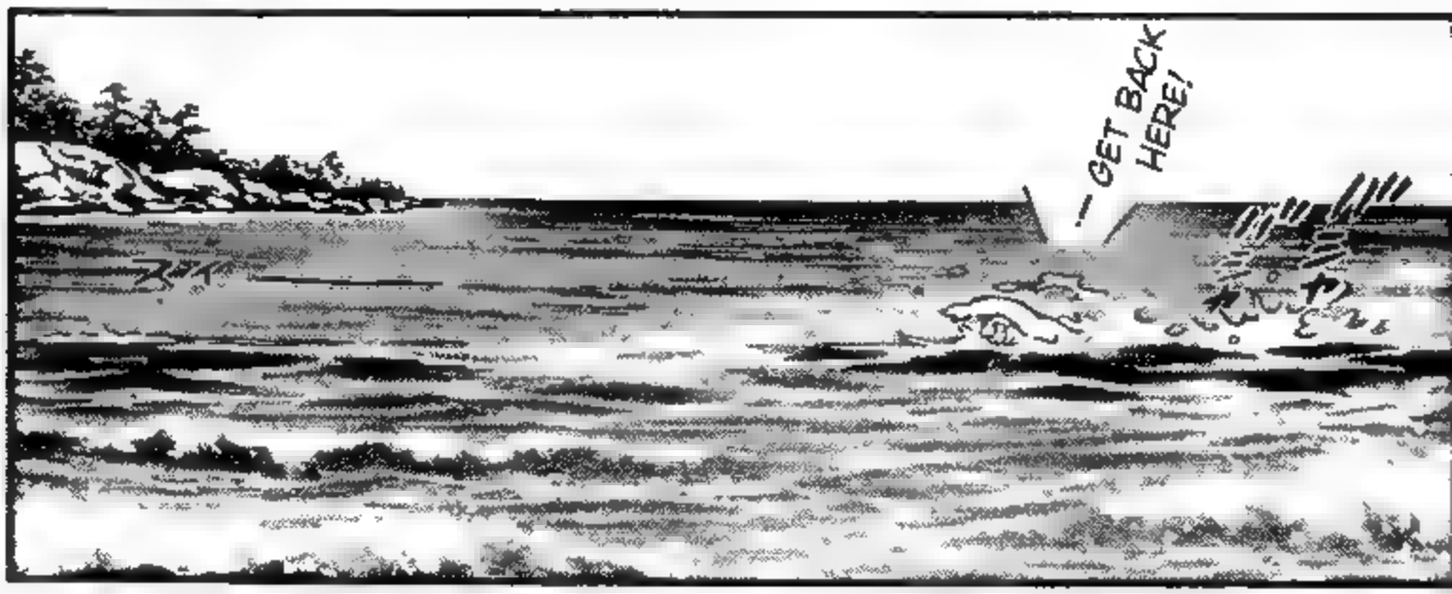









WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
AREN'T YOU THAT SUICIDAL GAMBLER?
GULP!
OH!
I THINK I MANAGED TO SWIM HERE AFTER JUMPING OFF THAT BRIDGE.
WELL, I'M NOT SURE MYSELF, BUT I SEEM TO HAVE TROUBLE DROWNING.
YOU GAMBLED OFF THE 20 RYOU??
THAT MEANS ...
HOLD IT!

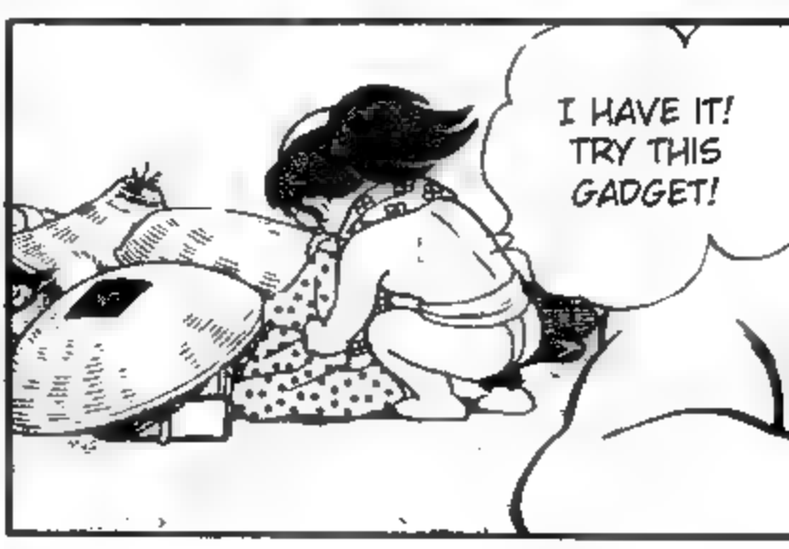

— GET BACK HERE!

HAVING A WEAKNESS MAKES A MAN MORE ATTRACTIVE!
HMPH!

HUH?
YOU CAN'T SWIM?

STRANGE! YOU CAN RUSH STRAIGHT INTO A BURNING FIRE, BUT NOT INTO THE WATER?

HUH?


I HAVE IT! TRY THIS GADGET!

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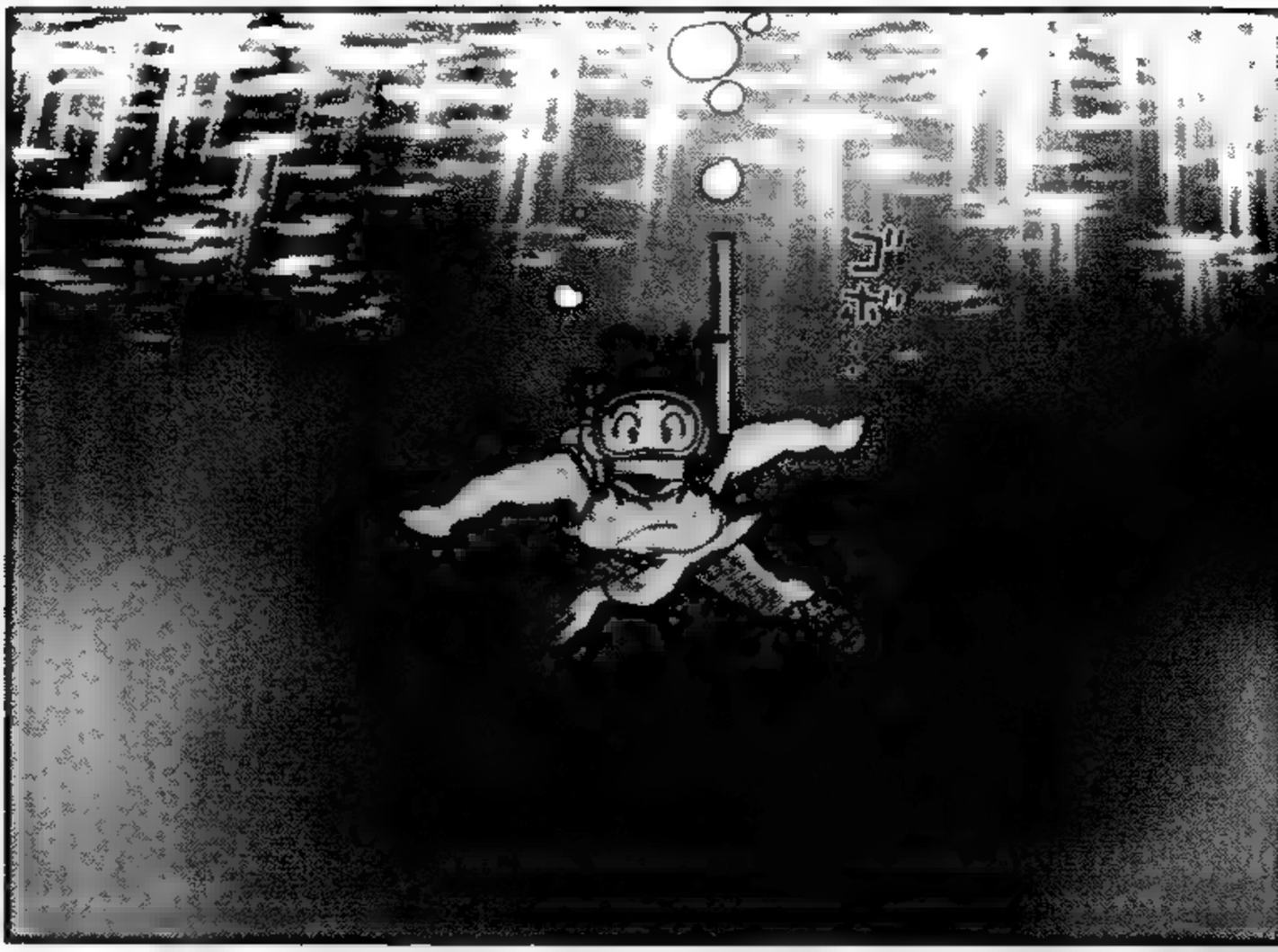
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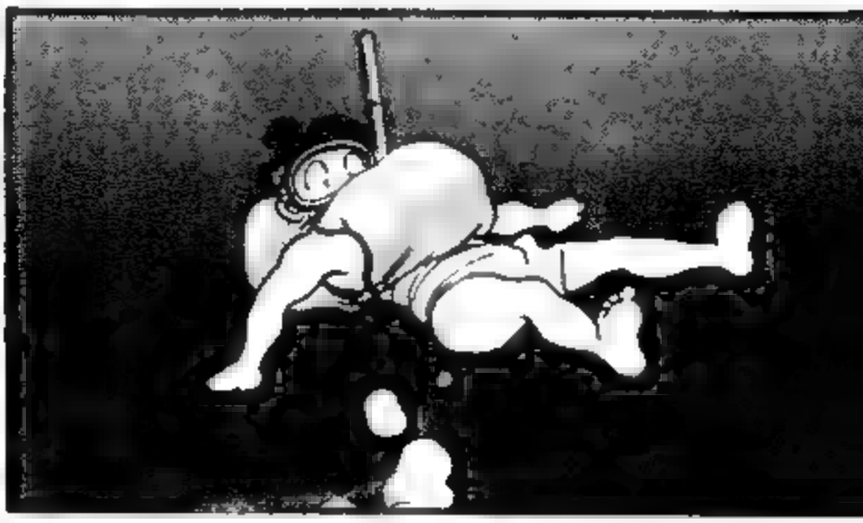

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NOT BAD!
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NOT BAD!
NOT BAD!

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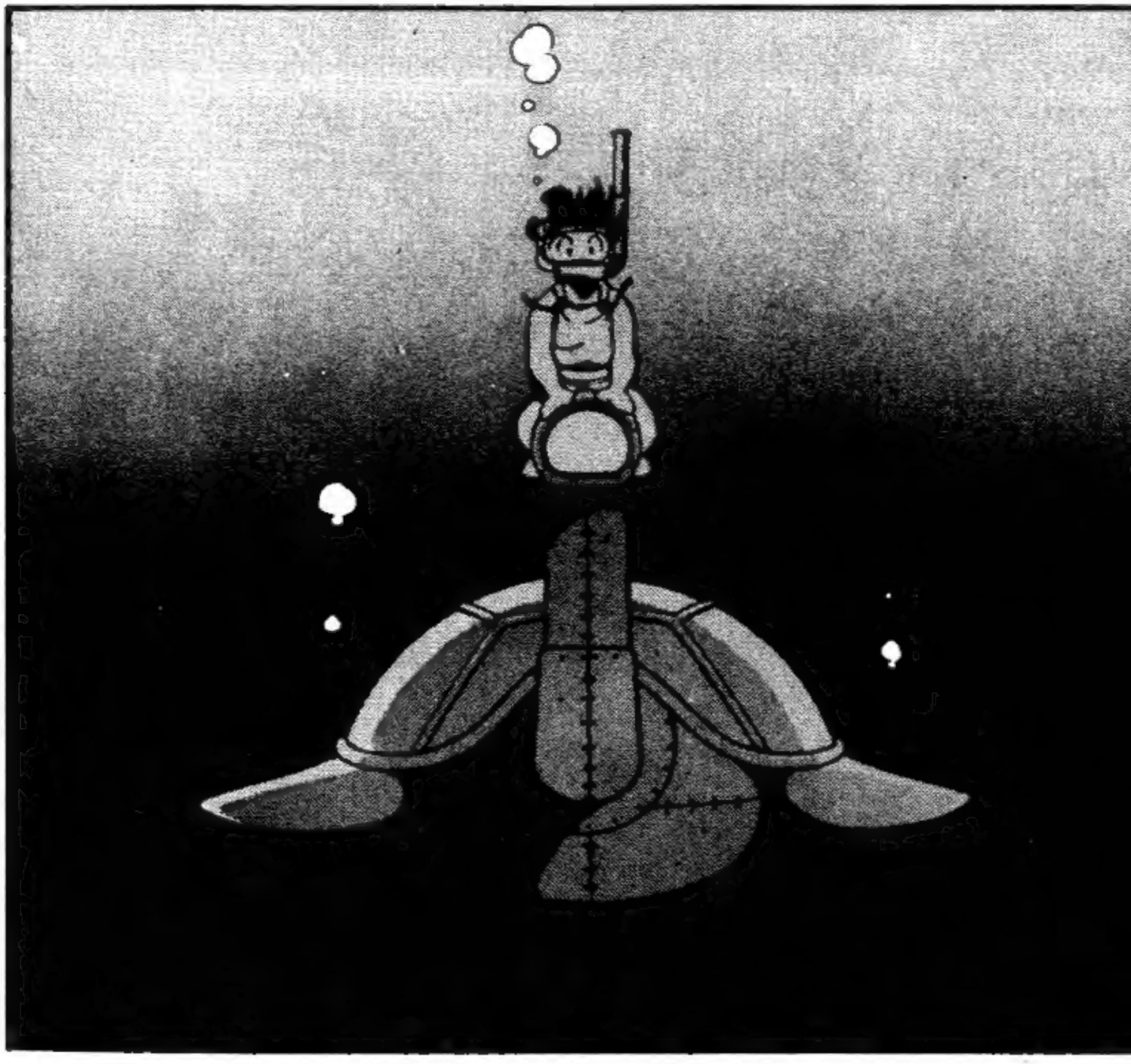
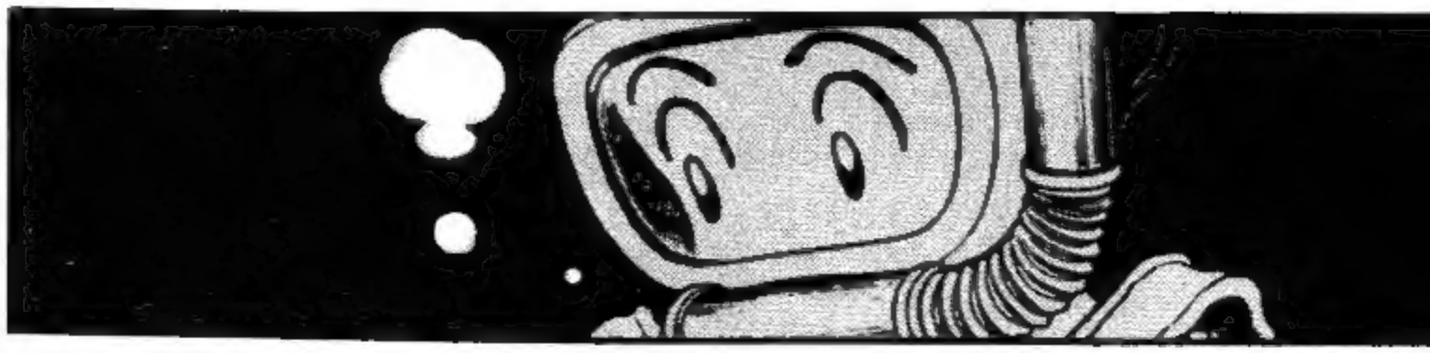
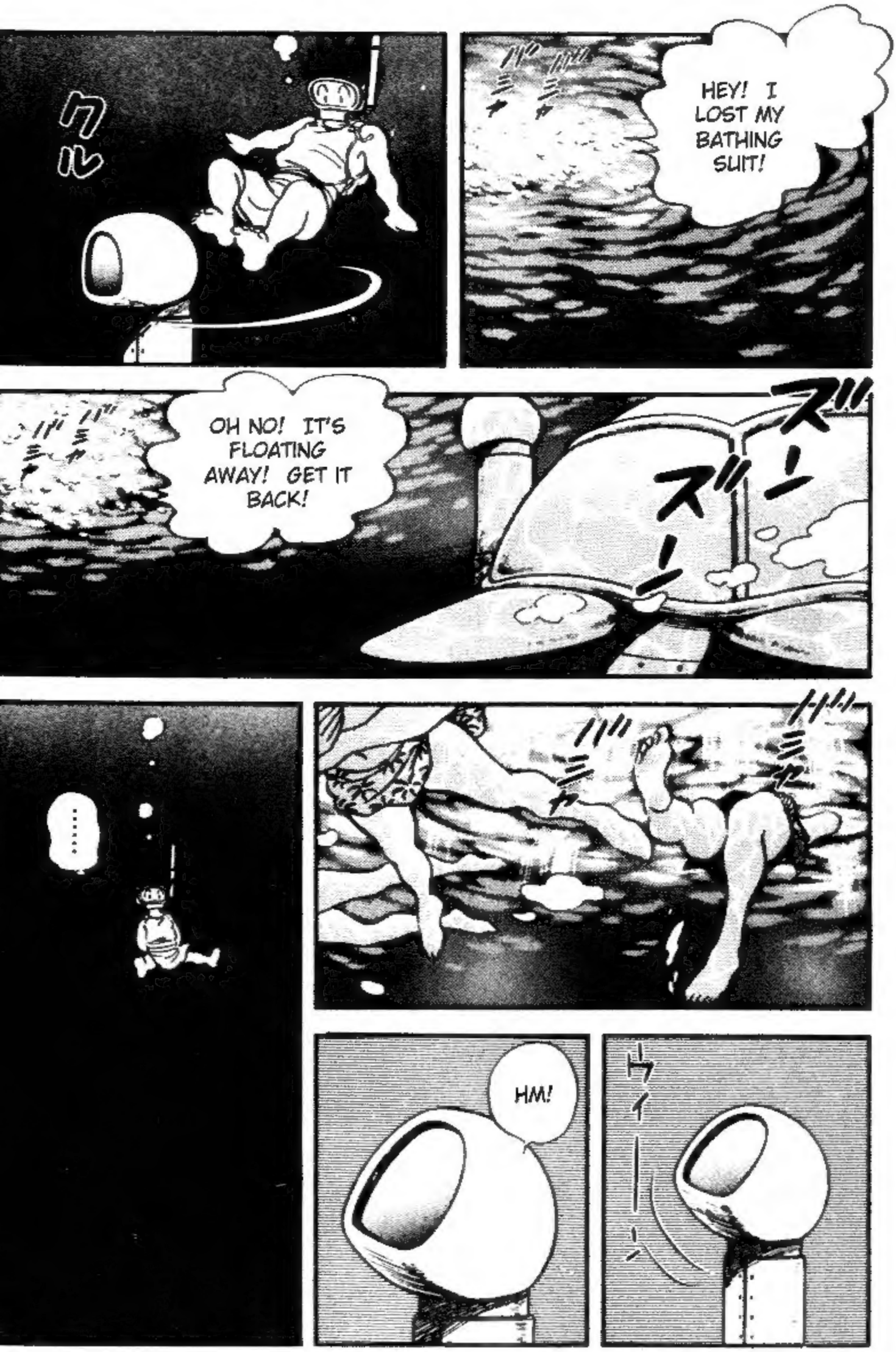
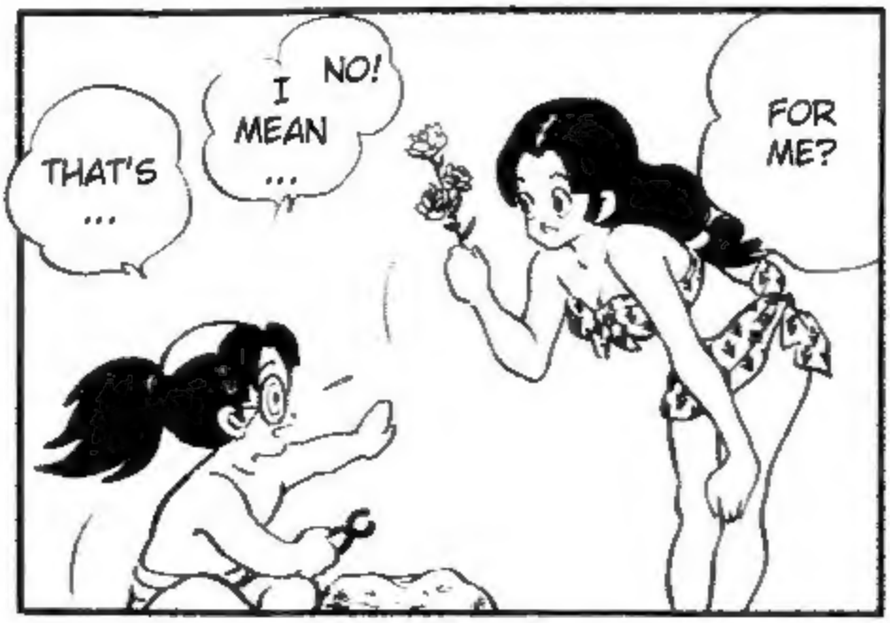
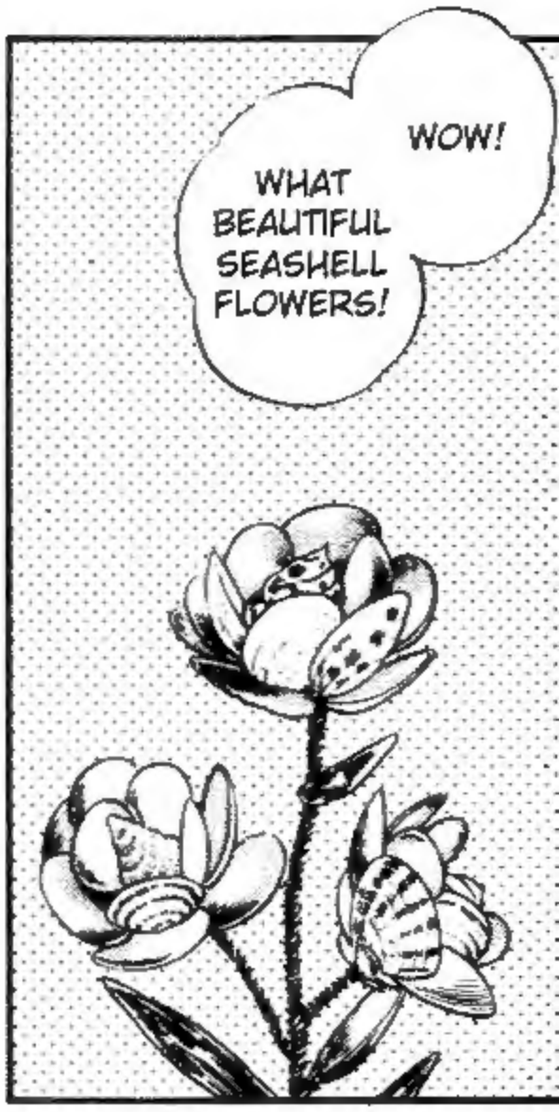




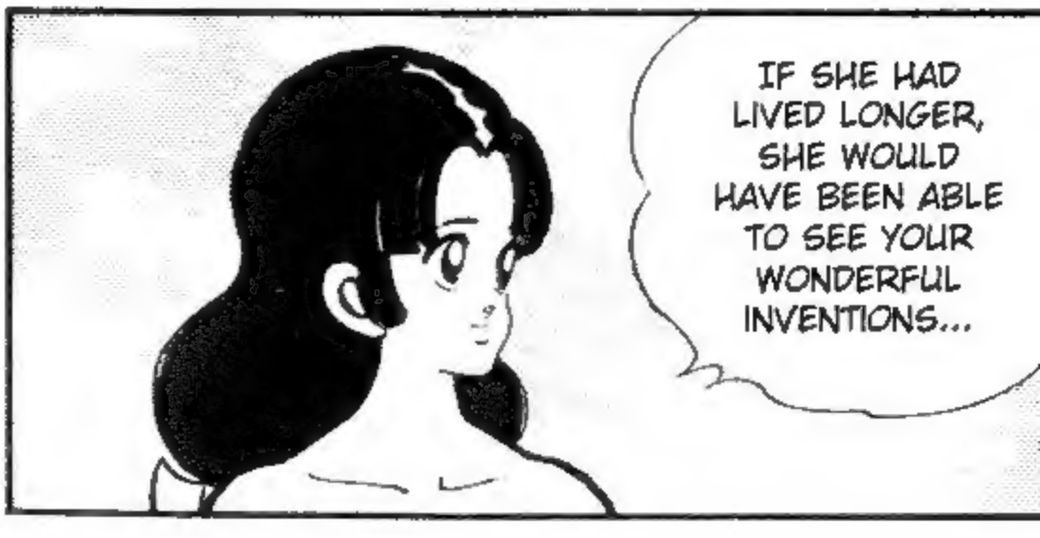

クルル
HEY! I LOST MY BATHING SUIT!
OH NO! IT'S FLOATING AWAY! GET IT BACK!
ズーン
ズーン
……
HM!
トゥーン

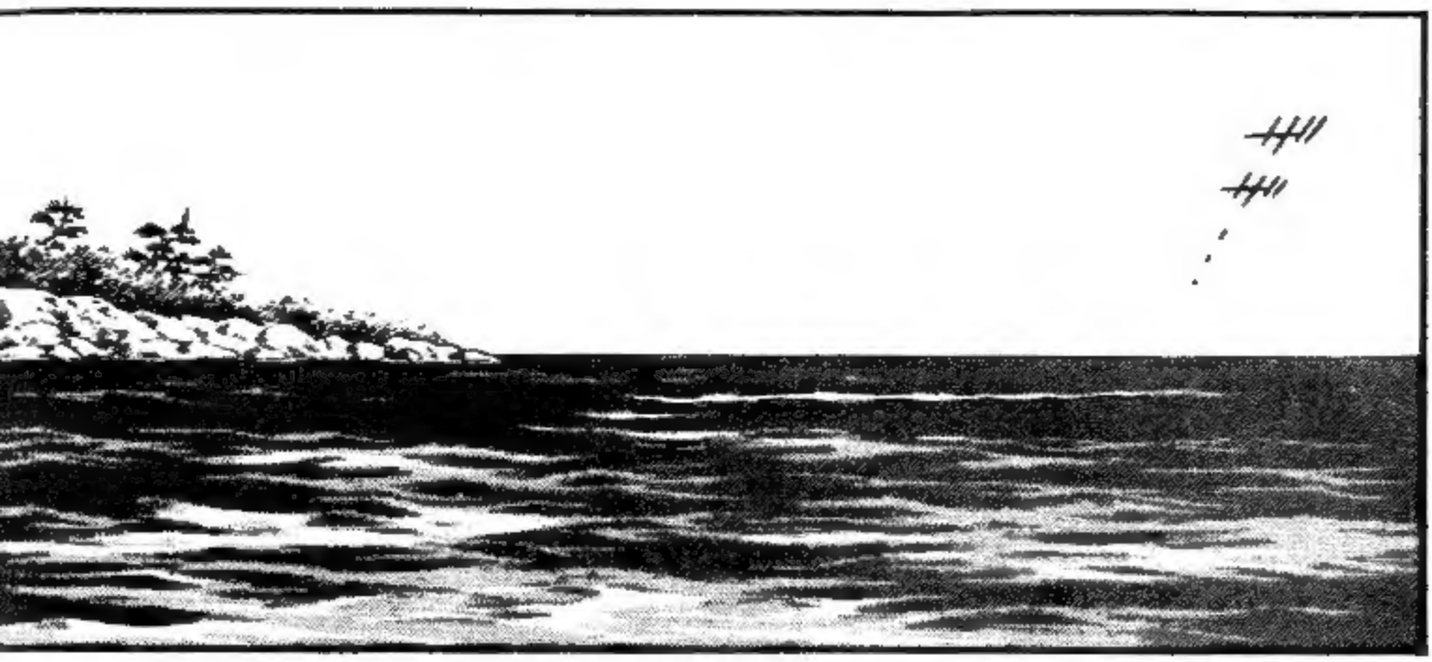

FOR ME?
NO! I MEAN ...
THAT'S ...

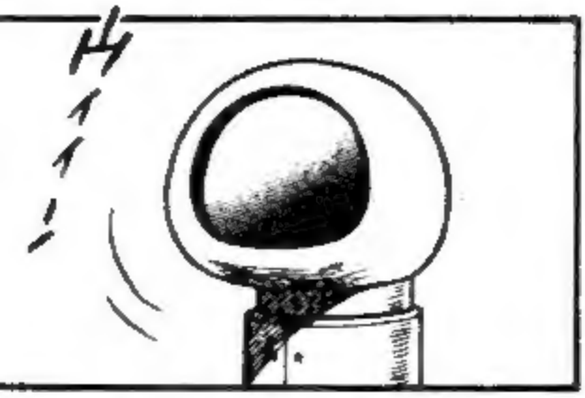

WOW! WHAT BEAUTIFUL SEASHELL FLOWERS!

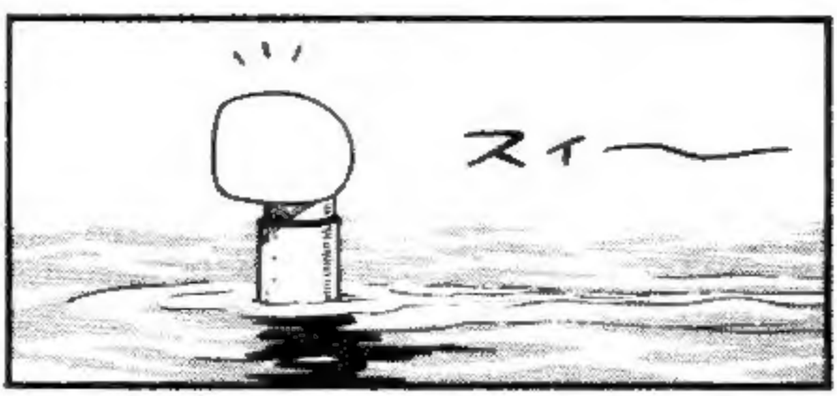
I KNOW.

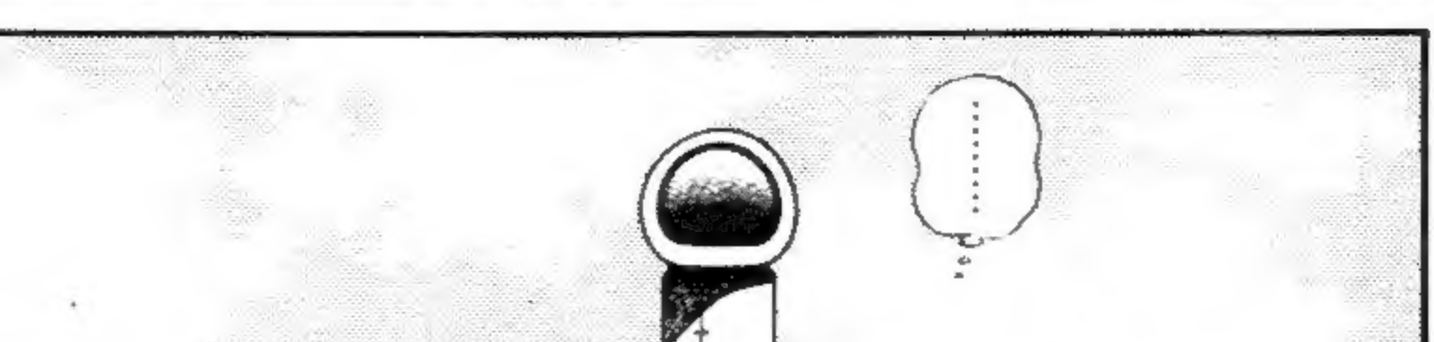
FOR YOUR MOTHER, RIGHT?
UN.


IF SHE HAD LIVED LONGER, SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEE YOUR WONDERFUL INVENTIONS...









（刊載於少年週刊SUNDAY・平成2年25號至平成2年34號）

——虹色辣椒❸・完——